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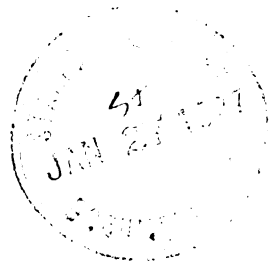
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1072.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1919-20..

(For Report for 1918-19 see No. 1035.)



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No. 1072.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

FOR
1919-1920.

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North, and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 1,200 to the square mile or nearly two to the acre. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras—in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1615 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I. granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonise the Island. Some 30 settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Hometown.

5. Charles I., in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of preoccupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Hometown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government

when the Commonwealth was established, though many royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim, and the heirs to Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the Colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor.

II.—CLIMATE.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by the residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito is not found in the Island.

18. The temperature throughout the year varies, as a rule, from 74° to 84° Fahrenheit.

19. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° Fahrenheit.

20. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

21. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage.

22. The "hurricane months" are July to October.

23. On 21st August, 1918, there was what is locally termed a "blow" which fortunately lasted only a few minutes. In those few minutes, however, damage to the extent of some £6,000 to £7,000 was done, mostly to the somewhat unsubstantial houses of the poorer classes.

24. Barbados experienced no abnormal weather during the year covered by this report with the exception of a very heavy rainfall on one day, 25th August, 1919.

25. On that day over eight inches of rain fell in Bridgetown and the neighbourhood, swelling the water-courses and doing considerable damage to property and live stock. Fortunately only one human life was lost.

26. Meteorological records for 1919 show that the average maximum temperature was 87.5° . The highest temperature for the year was 91.1° , recorded on 24th August, and the lowest 63° , on 25th January, 1919.

27. The rainfall was 42.35 inches, which was 9.11 inches under the average for the previous five years.

III.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

28. The prosperity of Barbados is mainly dependent upon agriculture, and nowhere are the readings of the rain gauge studied with deeper interest by everyone, no matter whether he be directly engaged in the planting industry or otherwise.

29. The main crop is sugar cane. The cultivation of cotton is a subsidiary industry, but the raising of a sufficient quantity of vegetables for a crowded population and of green fodder for the stock is always a matter of vital concern and especially so in days when high prices and enhanced freight rates have sent up the cost of all imported foodstuffs.

30. As regards the sugar crop, it was noticed in last year's report that the rainfall in 1918 was slightly under the average for the previous five years. But, in spite of this, the rains which fell in August, September, October and November, 1918, the months in which the sugar canes make the most growth, were heavier by some seven inches than in the corresponding months of 1917.

31. This fact and the inducement of high prices for sugar having led to the planting of a greater acreage in canes made the crop of 1919 a distinctly good one. The amount of sugar and fancy molasses exported in 1919 exceeded the figures for 1918 by 12,437 tons in quantity and £553,163 in value.

32. A glance at the rainfall figures given in paragraph 27 above does not, however, encourage the hope of a heavy crop in 1920-21, and weather conditions in 1920 make the outlook for 1921-22 less hopeful still.

33. The high prices to be obtained for cotton also led to an increased area being planted in this crop in 1919.

34. Nevertheless the Vegetable Produce Act, which had been in force in 1918, compelling owners to devote a certain acreage to the growing of vegetables, corn, etc., was not renewed by the Legislature when it expired on the 31st March, 1919, the view being held that legislation was unnecessary and that sufficient quantities of vegetables would always be grown without compulsion in the ordinary course of rotation of crops.

35. Subsequent experience, however, scarcely bore out such anticipations, and the Vegetable Produce Act has been re-enacted and is once more in force at the time of writing this report, though whether it will effect all in practice which can be claimed for it in theory is a debatable question, as it is one thing to compel agriculturists to plant a crop and another to make it grow in adverse weather conditions.

36. The cost of living in the Island rose again during 1919 above what it was in the preceding year and bore heavily upon the middle and labouring classes. Some increase in salaries and wages followed, but it has not been such as to allow the large majority of the people to live in a pre-war standard of comfort.

37. The rate of temporary increase given to Government employees varies from 25 per cent. in the higher paid posts to 45 per cent. in the lower.

38. There were no strikes or labour troubles during the year.

39. The financial year opened on the 1st April, 1919, with a balance to the credit of the General Revenue of the Colony of £32,940 4s. 1d.

40. According to the Estimates for the year it was anticipated that the revenue to be collected would amount to £298,655. Over half of this was put down as coming from Customs and Excise, while more than a quarter was expected to come to the credit of the Special Account comprising the proceeds of the Produce Tax Act, the Traders Tax Act, the Stamp Duty Act, and the War Tax Stamp Act.

The Produce Tax Act (£1 a ton on sugar and 6s. 8d. per 100 gallons on molasses) and the Traders Tax Act were only to remain in force till 31st December, 1919.

41. The estimated expenditure for the year was put down at £301,915.

42. The actual revenue collected during the year was £420,136 and the actual expenditure £351,851, and the financial year closed with a balance to the credit of general revenue of £77,960.

43. The bulk of the excess of actual revenue collected over the estimate was due to unexpected increases under the heads of revenue quoted in paragraph 40 and also to an increased Post Office revenue.

The increased expenditure was due to the high cost of labour and materials.

44. The Produce Tax Act and Traders Tax Act were not renewed after 31st December, 1919, and the War Tax Stamp Act ceased to operate on 31st March, 1920.

45. No fresh taxation was imposed during the year and there is at present no income tax in Barbados.

46. There returned to the Colony for demobilization during the year, 686 of all ranks of the Barbados Contingent of the British West Indies Regiment.

47. Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining their accounts, with consequent delay in effecting settlements and a certain amount of natural irritation on the part of the men. These matters and the re-settlement of the men in civil life were very successfully handled by a Returned Soldiers' Committee.

48. Large numbers of coloured mercantile marine and naval ratings were also sent to Barbados from Ports in the United Kingdom during the year, in pursuance of a repatriation scheme worked by the Ministry of Shipping. Many of these were Barbadians, but the majority were sent for onward transport to other parts of the West Indies—a matter presenting some difficulty and involving the prolonged stay in the Colony of discontented natives of other islands with which communication is infrequent.

49. There is an Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act in force, but the Government place no obstacles in the way of emigration.

50. Licensed Emigration agents recruiting labour for countries not under British rule have to enter into a contract with the emigrants regulating the hours of work, pay, accommodation, etc., and providing for their repatriation (if so demanded) on the expiry of the contract.

These contracts have to be approved by the Government.

51. The number of stranger immigrants was, as usual, negligible. The Barbadian who leaves his island does so with the idea of returning as soon as he has made enough money, and there is, therefore, little or no room for strangers.

52. The departures during the year under review numbered 3,404 and the arrivals 12,783. Cuba took the greater share of those leaving the Colony.

53. The vital statistics show the estimated population on 31st December, 1919, to have been 200,368; the birth-rate for the year 27·5, the death-rate 30·9, and the infantile mortality 352 per 1,000 births.

54. During the year no serious epidemic occurred. Typhoid fever was persistent in one district, but was not unusually prevalent otherwise. The Government pipe-borne water supplied throughout the island was reported on favourably and continued at a high degree of purity, chemically and bacteriologically, throughout the year.

An offer was made to the Government by the International Health Board (Rockefeller Institute) to initiate a campaign against hookworm disease (ankylostomiasis) provided that the sanitation of the country districts were improved beforehand by the general adoption of pit latrines for the disposal of excreta. This proviso was not favourably received by the responsible parochial authorities and the Government was in consequence compelled reluctantly to decline the generous offer.

55. The year 1919-20 was rendered memorable by the visit to the Colony of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness arrived in Carlisle Bay at 5 p.m. on 25th March, 1920, entertained some 200 guests in H.M.S. "Renown" that evening and landed at 10 a.m. on the following morning.

After receiving and replying to an address of welcome in the Chamber of the House of Assembly, His Royal Highness and suite went for a motor drive of some 30 miles into the country, returning by a different route, along roads lined by crowds, which gave His Royal Highness an enthusiastic welcome. His Royal Highness's programme was a full one; returning to Government House for luncheon, he was again seen both in the town and country in the afternoon before attending a reception in Government House grounds, at which some 800 people were present. An official dinner at Government House, followed by a ball in the Public Buildings finished the day and began the next. At 1 a.m. on 27th March, His Royal Highness went on board the "Renown," leaving behind him some 200,000 people who will treasure the memory of this wonderful visit.

Barbadians will not forget that theirs was the first West Indian island to be visited by the Prince of Wales, and, loyal subjects of Great Britain, as they have ever been, their personal contact with His Royal Highness on this occasion and his gracious manner to all have undoubtedly put fresh warmth into their love of country and their personal devotion to the Crown.

IV.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

56. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years are as follows :—

				Revenue.		Expenditure.
				£		£
1915-16	..	..	..	212,484	..	227,009
1916-17	..	..	..	311,303	..	242,605
1917-18	..	..	..	399,969	..	456,303
1918-19	..	..	..	347,497	..	347,817
1919-20	..	..	..	420,136	..	351,851

57. The public debt on 31st March, 1920, was £530,000, and the sinking fund to redeem it £179,583.

58. There have been no important changes in taxation during 1919.

59. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31st MARCH, 1920.

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of General Revenue at 31st March, 1920	77,960	0	9
Uncollected Police Tax	267	14	3½
Uncollected Water Rates	2,165	5	4
Advance on a/c of new Water Barges to be refunded by issue of debentures	7,366	0	1
	87,759	0	5½

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Accounts unpaid at 31st March, 1920	3,163	3	2
Vouchers in Audit Office on 31st March, 1920	1,523	17	7
Liabilities on votes to be paid in 1920-21	26,110	18	3
Excess of assets over liabilities 31st March, 1920	56,961	1	5½
	87,759	0	5½

V.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS (a).

60. The following table shows the value of imports from the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire, and elsewhere for the past five years.

	From U.K.	From other parts of the British Empire.	From elsewhere.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1915 ..	441,449	358,426	470,279	1,270,154
1916 ..	596,920	577,828	676,054	1,851,054
1917 ..	617,503	710,653	957,122	2,285,278
1918 ..	597,571	1,118,248	1,270,187	2,986,006
1919 ..	739,861	1,436,392	1,717,205	3,893,458

61. The total value of the imports in 1919 thus exceeded the figures for 1918 by £907,452. The following comparative table shows the sources of import and the percentages from each source for the two years.

	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom	19·0	20·0
.. Canada	18·3	16·0
.. British Possessions (including India) ..	18·4	21·5
.. United States of America	40·0	35·0
.. Other countries	4·3	7·5
	100·0	100·0

62. These figures show a decrease in imports from the United Kingdom of 1 per cent., an increase from Canada of 2·3 per cent., a decrease from other parts of the British Empire of 3·1 per cent., and an increase from the United States of America of 5 per cent., while imports from other countries decreased by 3·2 per cent.

63. From the above it may be gathered that the United Kingdom has not yet regained her position as regards trade with the Colony since the War. Canada is, as yet, unable fully to supply the island's needs and increased importation from the United States, principally in boots, shoes, paper and machinery, naturally follows in the circumstances.

64. The principal foreign countries showing decreases were :—

Peru, from which a considerable quantity of chemical manure was imported in 1918 and none in 1919.

Dutch West Indies, from which raw manure is imported. The quantity coming thence was less in 1919 than in 1918, but the more marked decline was in the value of the commodity.

Brazil, whence the decrease was in cotton thread, bran and farina.

Venezuela, though the decrease thence was not in the Colony's staple import of slaughter cattle, but in manure.

65. **FOODSTUFFS.**—*Cornmeal*, from the United States, showed a decrease of 800,000 lbs. due to shortage and restriction of exportation.

Rice showed an increase of nearly two million lbs. principally due to increased importation of eastern rice from India and the United Kingdom, the restrictions on the exportation of rice from India having been somewhat relaxed in 1919 while in British Guiana they became more stringent.

Flour from Canada and the United States showed an increase of about 4½ million lbs. divided in practically equal proportion between the two countries.

EXPORTS (*b*).

66. The following table shows the values of exports to the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere for the past five years.

	To United Kingdom.	To other parts of British Empire.	To elsewhere.	Bunker Coal supplied to vessels.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1915 ..	56,419	889,024	107,887	128,656	1,181,986
1916 ..	232,280	1,562,326	207,117	205,534	2,207,257
1917 ..	512,897	1,214,532	211,158	251,527	2,190,114
1918 ..	479,346	1,428,332	315,205	257,763	2,480,646
1919 ..	348,589	2,002,534	405,919	548,290	3,305,382

67. Thus the total value of the exports for 1919 exceeded those for 1918 by £824,736.

68. *Sugar*.—50,812 tons, value £1,232,415 were exported in 1919, as against 33,207 tons, value £687,453 in 1918, showing an increase in quantity of 17,605 tons and in value of £544,962.

69. *Molasses*.—7,569,830 gallons, value £883,597, were exported in 1919, as against 10,683,609 gallons, value £875,396 in 1918, showing a decrease in quantity of 3,113,779 gallons, but an increase in value of £8,201.

70. Thus the crop of 1919 was a heavier one than that of 1918, and worth £553,163 more.

71. The relative value of sugar to that of molasses was greater to the planter, consequently there was an increase in the manufacture of sugar and a decrease in molasses.

72. *Cotton (raw)*.—114,444 lbs., value £22,888 were exported in 1919 as against 188,363 lbs. value £37,673 in 1918, showing a decrease of 73,919 lbs. in quantity and £14,785 in value.

73. The fact that less cotton was exported is not, however, an indication that less was grown. In recent years the exports, owing to the freight difficulties, have not corresponded with the crops of cotton.

74. *Rum*.—49,862 gallons, value £19,943, were exported in 1919, as against 45,268 gallons value £5,659 in 1918, an increase of 4,594 gallons in quantity and £14,284 in value.

75. There was no appreciable export trade in Barbados rum prior to the War, but it appears as though one were growing up though it is not of much magnitude at present—and this in spite of the fact that the greater part of the North American continent has gone “dry.”

76. MINOR PRODUCTS.—The only commodities worthy of notice are *bread and biscuits*, made locally, *fresh vegetables*, and *tamarinds*.

Bread and Biscuits.—567,281 lbs. value £11,818 were exported in 1919 as against 161,150 lbs. value £3,223 in 1918, an increase of 406,131 lbs. in quantity and £8,595 in value.

Fresh vegetables to the value of only £364 were exported in 1919 as against a value of £6,830 in 1918. The quantities are not available. The decrease was due to shortage consequent on the cultivation of sugar cane yielding such relatively high returns.

Tamarinds to the value of £2,873 were exported in 1919 as against £3,755 in 1918, a decrease of £882. The quantities are not available. The demand is chiefly from Italy.

AGRICULTURE (c).

77. The sugar crop exported has been set forth under its various headings in section V. (b). The following table gives the yield in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

1915	..	..	..	..	..	39,803 tons
1916	..	..	..	..	..	73,581 "
1917	..	..	..	..	..	69,367 "
1918	..	..	..	..	..	57,191 "
1919	..	..	..	..	..	69,628 "

78. The increase of 12,437 tons for 1919 above the crop of the previous year was due to a considerable extent to the increased area planted in sugar-canes, owing to the greatly enhanced prices that had been obtaining for some time for sugar, and also to some extent to a better distribution of the rainfall in 1918 than in 1917. Owing to the prolonged drought which prevailed during 1920 the crop of 1921 is likely to be much below the average and if to-day's prices prevail the cost of production may be found to be in excess of the revenue obtained therefrom.

79. The seedling sugar-canes B.H.10 (12) and the Ba. 6032 which have been mentioned in the annual reports for the past three years, still continue to give considerable yields over the White Transparent and the B. 6450, the two varieties at present used as the standard canes. From a recent report of the Department of Agriculture it appears during the past seven years that the B.H. 10 (12), grown under the same conditions as the two standard canes, has on the average given 61·3 per cent. more than the White Transparent and 25·4 per cent. more than the B. 6450. The Ba. 6032 gave 49·2 per cent. more than the White Transparent and 11·4 per cent. more than the B. 6450.

80. Of the newer seedlings considered to give promising results, mention may be made of the Ba. 11,403, B.S.F. 12 (50), B. 67, B. 2,001 and B. 268. The Director of Agriculture again reports that owing to attacks of the root borer (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*, Linn.) and the brown hard-back (*Phylalus smithi*, Arrow), the experiments that were carried out for the season 1918-20 were practically rendered nugatory. Every effort has been made at the Government Experiment stations to reduce the numbers of these pests by collecting them, but, if these efforts are to be attended with success, the co-operation of owners and managers of neighbouring estates is indispensable, and this does not appear to have been complete during the year. To show how impossible it is to find a basis for any recommendations with regard to seedling sugar-canes or to the best manurial plots, it may be mentioned that in the case of manurial plots the number of root borers and brown hard-backs varied from 3,774 to 9,488 per acre, and in the case of the seedling sugar-cane varieties from 406 to 6,387. Also to show how impossible it is to obtain any comparative results with the sugar-canes grown from seed the first year, it may be stated that 47,382 root-borer, brown hard-back and root-borer egg batches were obtained from just over two acres of these seedlings. In 1919, owing to the prevalence of the root-borer and the brown hard-back and the injury they were doing to the sugar canes, the Governor appointed a Commission to advise as to what measures should be adopted to control or eradicate them. The commission duly reported and the report was laid on the table of the House of Assembly on 25th November, 1919, but up to the time of writing this it has not yet been printed. This is most unfortunate. All Government printing is done by contract and it is common knowledge that all contractors have had great difficulties to contend with.

81. It is usual here to insert a table giving a comparative statement of the cotton crops for the year under review and the previous year. Owing, however, to the War there was great difficulty in getting ships to take cotton at the right time, and so some of the cotton for one year is included in the exports of the following year, and thus it is impossible to get an accurate statement showing the yield of the crop of one year as compared with that of the previous one.

82. Owing to the very high price of cotton due to the War, which at one time was something like 300 per cent. on pre-war prices, the area under cotton exceeded that of the previous year by 108 acres. It would have been probably greater if the price of sugar had not been so high. It was mentioned in the last annual report that the Department of Agriculture had been, for some time, improving the exotic and indigenous cottons by selection and that the Governor had sanctioned the planting on Government land of twenty acres of the improved exotic cotton to furnish seed of the good strain for planting the area which was

estimated would be grown during the year 1919-20. This has proved sufficient and the result is that this year the yield of the cotton crop per acre promises to be larger than it has been for some years. It may be mentioned that samples of the 1919-20 cotton were sent to Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland for examination and sale, and that they reported favourably on the samples, and were able to obtain 88*d.* per pound when cotton of a similar class was selling at 80*d.* per pound.

83. During 1919 the British Union Oil Company, Limited, leased certain Government land abutting on Carlisle Bay with a view to establishing an oil bunkering station. This Company also has leases covering a large area (approximately two-thirds of the island) and has done sufficient prospecting to warrant the installation of heavy drilling plant for deep testing, which is now being imported and set up.

VI.—BANKS.

84. There are two Banks doing business in Barbados; the Colonial Bank with a paid-up capital of £900,000, and the Royal Bank of Canada with a paid-up capital of £3,541,666.

85. The Colonial Bank has a note circulation (five dollar notes) of £350,000. In Barbados the estimated circulation is £50,000.

86. There is a Government Savings Bank, which had, on 31st December, 1919, 12,647 depositors, and deposits amounting to £303,734.

87. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was formed in 1907, in circumstances and for objects set forth below.

88. In the year 1902, a sum of £250,000 was granted by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the Sugar Industry of the West Indies and British Guiana, of which total £80,000 was allocated to Barbados. Just about that time, the sugar planters were finding it exceedingly difficult to obtain advances from the Colonial Bank to enable them to keep their estates in cultivation, as many of these planters had not been able to repay the loans made to them on the security of their crops, owing to the very low price for which the produce had been selling.

89. The local Government therefore considered that the best way to utilise the grant of £80,000 was to keep it intact as a reserve fund on which to raise the necessary money for working the plantations, and thereby provide employment for the agricultural labourers of the island.

90. An Act called "The Plantations in Aid Act," 1902, was passed to carry out the above-mentioned object, and this Act proved so beneficial to the planters that it was renewed each year until the year 1906; after which it was decided to rest the original grant of £80,000 with all the accretions of interest that had been made during the years 1902-1906 in a bank to be styled "The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank," which Bank was to be conducted by seven persons who would form the board of management the chairman being the Colonial Secretary for the time being, four members being appointed by the House of Assembly annually, one by the Legislative Council, and one by the Agricultural Society.

91. The amount loaned for the year 1st June, 1919, to 31st May, 1920, was £373,498 6s. 8d. This sum was loaned to 150 different owners. The profit arising from these transactions came to £6,204 6s. 10½d.

92. The total funds of the Bank, at 31st May, 1920, amounted to £146,968 5s. 0½d.

VII.—LEGISLATION.

93. The following Acts, which may be of interest outside the Colony, were passed during the year :—

- (1) The Peace Preservation Act, 1919 (1919-8), conferring power on the Government, when it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, to search for arms and ammunition in any district and proclaim such district as one in which it is unlawful to have arms, etc.
- (2) The Ammunition Act, 1919 (1919-16), prohibiting the importation of ammunition except under licence, and also the sale of ammunition to any except the licensed keepers of firearms.
- (3) The Cinematograph Act, 1919 (1919-25), providing for the appointment of a board to censor films.
- (4) The Old Metal Dealers Act, 1919 (1919-27), requiring dealers in old metals to be registered with the police and imposing stringent conditions as to the purchase of old metals.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

94. For local convenience the schools of the Colony are divided into three classes :—Elementary, second-grade and first-grade. The elementary school corresponds in most details to the English schools of this type and the education given in the first and second-grade schools corresponds to English secondary education.

95. There are no Government schools as this term is understood. There is a central administrative Board, but each elementary school is under a local committee consisting of the minister of the district and two laymen appointed annually by the Central Board. Each first and second-grade school is under the authority of a governing body, constituted in accordance with schemes framed by the Central Board.

96. Education is not compulsory. There are no continuation schools or classes, nor is any provision made for technical or industrial education.

97. At the beginning of 1919 there were 138 elementary schools in operation; this number remained unchanged throughout the year. In addition to these there were three Ragged schools which provide the elements of knowledge for very poor children who are unable to attend the ordinary elementary school.

98. During 1919, the number of pupils on the registers, exclusive of the three Ragged schools, was 19,510 and the average daily attendance was 11,438. The pressure of economic conditions which was greater in 1919 than in 1918, has caused a further decline in the attendance. With the return of normal conditions there will doubtless be an improvement. The large majority of the children attending these schools belong to the agricultural class, and only a small percentage goes beyond Standard IV. This standard is equivalent to the factory standard recognised in countries in which compulsory education exists.

99. The children who reach the higher standards are sufficiently intelligent to benefit by vocational training and would make excellent material for technical and industrial courses.

100. By means of exhibitions, the elementary schools are linked up with the first and second-grade schools, and winners of these exhibitions have eventually won scholarships tenable at English Universities.

101. To a moderate extent, provision is made in the elementary schools for manual instruction.

102. The cost of elementary education during 1919, including the training of teachers and the upkeep of buildings was £20,333; of this sum £19,308 was provided by the Central Government and £1,025 by the parochial authorities.

103. The number of second-grade schools was the same as during the past several years: five for boys and one for girls.

104. The curriculum in these schools embraces English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Spanish, and commercial subjects. The upper forms are entered for the Cambridge Local Junior and Senior Examinations, and the students acquit themselves very creditably. Pupils who leave these schools find no difficulty in obtaining work in mercantile offices and in banks. Some become teachers, while others secure employment on sugar estates.

105. Cadet Companies and Scout Troops exist in connection with some of these boys' schools, and the training given has produced satisfactory results.

106. The cost of second-grade education, inclusive of exhibitions, was £1,570 during 1919, and the attendance during the year was 413.

107. The number of first-grade schools was three—two for boys, and one for girls.

108. The range of work in the two first-grade schools for boys, extends from elementary instruction in the Preparatory Form, to the level of open scholarships at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

109. The Fourth Form is entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination and the Fifth and Sixth Forms for the Oxford and Cambridge Lower and Higher Certificate Examinations, and the results are, in general, satisfactory. A scholarship, called the "Barbados Scholarship," is annually competed for by boys of these two schools. This scholarship is tenable for four years at any University or College in Europe or Canada. In 1919 this Scholarship was awarded to a classical candidate in accordance with the recommendation of the Examiners appointed by the Cambridge Syndicate.

110. The range of the work in the girls' first-grade school extends from elementary instruction to the level required for the Senior Cambridge Local and the London University Examinations. Girls are also prepared for the South Kensington and Ablett Drawing Examinations. The progress made by all these schools is satisfactory and they afford a liberal education for the boys and girls of the Colony.

111. Flourishing Cadet Companies exist in connection with the three boys' schools, and Girl Guide Troops have recently been started in connection with the girls' schools and have achieved remarkable success. This movement is also being extended to the elementary schools.

112. The cost of first-grade education during 1919 was £2,318, and the number of pupils in attendance was 400.

113. University education is also obtainable in the Colony. Codrington College, founded early in the 18th century, is affiliated to the University of Durham. This college receives no financial aid from the Government beyond the four Island Scholarships of £40 each per annum, which are tenable there. The number of students in attendance during 1919 was 16.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) EXTERNAL.

114. The contract for a regular fortnightly mail service to and from the United Kingdom which had previously been supplied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was abandoned during the War and has not been resumed since. It is of course very desirable that the Colony should have regular steamship communication with the United Kingdom. Such a service, however, cannot be carried on without a subsidy, and, in the case of small islands, to find the necessary money for a subsidy and to come to an agreement as to the quota which each should contribute is no easy matter.

115. A regular service with Canada is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, the Southern Islands and British Guiana.

116. The following steamship lines carried mails during 1919:—The regular lines—not sailing on scheduled dates—were, from the United Kingdom : The “ Direct ” Line from London, “ Harrison ” and “ Leyland ” from Liverpool, and the “ Glasgow ” Line from Glasgow. From the United States of America to Northern Islands, Barbados and British Guiana “ Quebec ” S.S. Line.

The “ New Orleans and South American ” Line, the “ Raporel ” Line and the “ Lloyd Brasileiro ” Line also call at irregular periods to and from the United States.

“ Lamport and Holt ” and “ Booth ” steamers called here irregularly on the routes to and from the United States and Brazil, and the “ La Veloce,” an Italian Line from Mediterranean Ports to and from Colon.

117. The length of passage from the United Kingdom is 15 to 17 days, from Halifax and New York 14 days (not direct) and 7½ days (direct) respectively.

118. Communication with the other West Indian Islands is also maintained by sailing vessels at irregular intervals.

119. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1919.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
684	1,678,562	756	156,376	1,440	1,834,938

120. As compared with 1918, 325 more vessels (294 steamers and 31 sailing vessels) entered the port.

121. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Barbados, and direct cable communication with St. Vincent, and thence to the other West Indies, America and Europe. The Company receives an annual subsidy of £1,500 from Barbados.

122. There is also a small Government Wireless Telegraph Station, erected during the War as a war station, and utilised since the signing of the Armistice for ship to shore and shore to ship commercial traffic.

(b) INTERNAL.

123. The Barbados Government Railway has 28 miles of line from Bridgetown to St. Andrew.

124. The gauge is 2 feet 6 inches and £47,917 has been spent on the reconstruction of the line since its purchase by the Government in 1916 to date.

125. The line, however, follows the coast for the greater part of its course, and most of the produce of the Island is consequently conveyed to the port by road and not by rail.

126. There is an elaborate system of roads throughout the Island, 473 miles of road being suitable to motor vehicles; the wear and tear on the roads is, however, very heavy, and their present condition leaves much to be desired.

127. An American private tramway company maintains a service of mule-drawn tramway cars throughout Bridgetown and suburbs.

128. There is no telegraph line in Barbados, but telephonic communication is maintained by the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, a private company, with 1,270 services and about 2,401 miles of line in use.

129. The Post Office does a considerable and increasing money order and parcels business with the countries to which Barbadians emigrate:—Canada, the United States of America, Panama and Cuba. The central office is in Bridgetown, with ten country offices, five of which transact money order business. Four deliveries of mails are made daily in Bridgetown, and one delivery daily in the country districts.

FRANCIS JENKINS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
8th March, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1037	St. Vincent	1918-1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	"
1041	Nyasaland	1918-1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	"
1044	Bermuda	"
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	"
1056	Swaziland	1919-1920
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria.. .. .	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1073.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917-18 see No. 1013.)



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No. 1073.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EAST AFRICA
PROTECTORATE FOR 1918-19.*

(Colonial Office Note :—Now known as the Kenya Colony and
Protectorate.)

I.—FINANCIAL.

(a) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure sanctioned at the opening of the year amounted to £1,675,123, of which £1,592,090 was authorised to be spent out of the year's revenue by the Appropriation Ordinance, 1918, and £83,033 was carried forward from the previous year's votes for completion of works in the 1917-18 programme, to be met from Surplus Balances.

The Supplementary Estimates provided for expenditure of £236,819, which was not authorised by the Appropriation Ordinance. Of this £221,596, including War Bonus for the Staff, was to be met from Surplus Balances, £3,000 from a fine on the Aulihan Somalis, and £12,223 was to be met from Savings which were expected to amount to £102,111. The total expenditure then anticipated was £1,726,798.

The total actual expenditure amounted to £1,570,705, of which £1,363,649 was a charge against the revenue, and £207,056 (including £155,973 charged to War Expenses) was a charge against Surplus Balances. In order to make a satisfactory comparison with the amount authorised it is necessary to deduct therefrom the sum of £95,734, the total unexpended balance of the year's votes which require to be carried forward to complete the 1918-19 programme, and to add to the actual expenditure the sum of £33,600 deferred charges on account of Military Expenditure. The total year's expenditure is then found to be more than the total amount sanctioned at the opening of the year by £24,916, but to be less than the aggregate expenditure provided for in the original and supplementary estimates by £109,792.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 881 [Cd. 8172-7].

The following table shows the Expenditure for the last six years :—

1913-14	..	..	..	..	£ 1,115,899
1914-15	..	..	..	..	1,151,730
1915-16	..	..	..	..	1,072,917
1916-17	..	..	..	..	1,197,396
1917-18	..	..	..	..	1,490,571
1918-19	..	..	..	..	1,570,705

FINANCIAL POSITION ON MARCH 31ST, 1919.

The net excess of Assets over Liabilities on 31st March was £434,294.

This figure is arrived at as follows :—

Excess of Assets on 1st April, 1918..	£ 456,296
Total Expenditure	
1918-19	£1,570,705
Total Revenue 1918-19	£1,548,703
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue	22,002
Balance	£434,294

From this Surplus the following amounts must be deducted in order to ascertain the financial position :—

Unexpended balance of votes for works sanctioned but uncompleted	£ 95,734
Expenditure in connection with military patrols to be adjusted in 1919-20 accounts	33,600
Receipts from stand premia on farms and town plots earmarked for road construction	19,964
	£149,298

This leaves an available Surplus of £284,996, which is less than the available Surplus at the end of the previous year by £77,533, but it exceeds the anticipated Surplus on which the estimates for 1919-20 are based by £109,750.

(b) CURRENCY.

The total value of the Currency Note Circulation on the 31st March, 1919, was Rs.1,17,13,500, an increase of Rs.33,83,000 on the circulation at the end of the previous year.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(a) TRADE.

In consequence of the amalgamation of the Customs Departments of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates as from 1st April, 1917, separate statistics relating to the trade of each Protectorate are not available.

The following particulars, therefore, refer to the total trade of the two Protectorates:—

Gross receipts from import and export duty during the year under review amounted to £346,216, from which should be deducted the sum of £75,654 refunded in respect of goods in transit, re-exported, etc., the net Customs revenue therefore being £270,562. Of this amount two-thirds is credited to the East Africa Protectorate and one-third to Uganda.

There was a considerable decrease on export duty, which was due to lack of shipping facilities, large stocks of all varieties of produce, including hides and skins which are the principal source of export remaining on hand at the close of the financial year. It is confidently expected that a complete recovery in the export trade will take place during 1919-20.

Imports.—The total value of commercial imports during the year increased from £2,809,681 to £3,397,810, thus showing an increase of £588,129, or 21 per cent. The imports were the highest in value on record and would have shown an increase of 36 per cent. had it not been for the high rate of exchange ruling during the year, viz.: 1s. 6d. = Re.1, while conversion from rupee to sterling currency was made at 1s. 4d. = Re.1 for statistical purposes.

Cotton textiles continue to constitute the most important and largest class of imports, amounting to £912,467, or 27 per cent. of the total trade imports, as compared with £950,608, or 34 per cent., in 1917-18. This decrease represents 4 per cent. in value and 31 per cent. in quantity, thus indicating an average rise in price during the year of 40 per cent. Of the various descriptions of cotton textiles, unbleached piece goods to the value of £263,514, or 29 per cent. of the total value, were imported, by far the greatest proportion (£158,575) originating in India, the second largest supplier being the United States of America (£51,116), followed by the United Kingdom (£30,138) and Japan (£22,624). Imports of other varieties of cotton fabrics amounted in value to £613,682, showing an increase of £136,496, or 28 per cent., over the preceding year. Ninety-five per cent. of this amount is represented by goods originating in the United Kingdom.

Grain and flour represent the second item in importance and constitute 11 per cent. of the total trade imports. The quantity increased by 92,460 cwt., or 32 per cent., and the value by

£163,320, or 73 per cent., the disparity between the two figures indicating a general rise in price of 31 per cent. as compared with the previous year.

Rice, as usual, takes the first place under this head in quantity as well as in value, 215,124 cwt. costing £219,180 being imported as against 170,756 cwt. to the value of £140,615 received in 1917-18.

Wheat flour comes next in importance under this heading, 93,027 cwt. to the value of £107,206 being imported, showing an increase of 35,570 cwt. or 61 per cent. in quantity, and £53,958 or 101 per cent. in value over the importations during 1917-18. Of the total quantity of grain and flour imported, 86 per cent. originated in India.

Spirituous liquors, including wines and spirits, ale and beer, formed the third group of imports (in importance as regards value), 216,059 gallons to the value of £218,155 being imported during the year as against 144,943 gallons to the value of £97,487 in 1917-18. Ale and beer show the largest increase under this head, representing 34 per cent. of the total quantity and 14 per cent. of the value. 74,363 gallons worth £30,248 were imported, 49 per cent. originating in the United Kingdom, 37 per cent. in the Union of South Africa, and 13 per cent. in Japan. Importations of whisky show a quantitative increase of 11,602 gallons, or 21 per cent., and an advance of £52,498 or 102 per cent. in value, thus indicating a rise in price of 67 per cent. With the exception of 254 gallons, all whisky was imported from the British Empire. Imports of wine show an increase of 15,219 gallons or 73 per cent. in quantity, and £18,103 or 118 per cent. in value. Of this quantity 48 per cent. was consigned from the Union of South Africa, 20 per cent. from Italy and 18 per cent. from France. Brandy shows an increase of 15,455 gallons, or 130 per cent., in quantity and £26,322 or 258 per cent. in value over the importations of the previous year.

Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes ranked next in importance. 1,401,661 lb. to the value of £184,242, being imported, an increase of 540,673 lb. in quantity and £94,492 in value over 1917-18.

A decrease of 12 per cent. in the quantity of sugar imported is shown, 78,997 cwt. to the value of £104,614 being received during the year under report. Of this total 83 per cent. originated in Mauritius, Java, which had hitherto been the principal source of supply, furnishing 15 per cent. only. The decrease in quantity imported may be ascribed rather to shortage of supply than to any increase in local production or diminishing demand.

With regard to the countries of origin of trade imports the share of the United Kingdom, prominent as it was in past years, advanced from £1,253,695 in 1917-18 to £1,619,993 in the year under review and represented 47·68 per cent. of the total value of goods imported. British possessions contributed 31·26 per cent., or £1,062,245 as against £839,659 in 1917-18.

Of the balance of 21·06 per cent. from foreign countries, 7·14 per cent. was received from the United States of America, 2 per cent. from Japan, and 1·68 per cent. from Holland. Trade with Japan has increased considerably, being negligible in volume prior to the War, whereas some diminution in the trade with Holland has to be recorded.

The value of the imported goods subsequently re-exported amounted to £726,280, a considerable advance on any previous year. This was mainly due to the fact that large quantities of imported goods were re-shipped to and received from the conquered territory of German East Africa.

Transit traffic decreased from £556,869 to £425,583, or by 13 per cent. These figures should, however, be considered in conjunction with the figures relating to re-exports, and it will thus be seen that little, if any, diminution in this traffic has occurred.

Exports.—Since 1st April, 1917, the exports of produce originating in the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates have been shown under one heading, exports of produce originating in the conquered territory of German East Africa, Belgian Congo and the Sudan being registered separately.

Produce of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates to the value of £2,231,827 was exported during the year under review as against £1,543,104 in 1917-18, an increase of £688,723 or 45 per cent. From German East Africa produce to the value of £231,590 was exported from this Protectorate as compared with £165,500 during the previous year.

Cotton heads the list of combined exports and represents 48 per cent. of the total value. The quantity exported was 109,179 cwt. of a declared value of £1,064,065 or £9 14s. 11d. per cwt., an increase as compared with the previous year of 13,905 cwt. accompanied by an advance in price of £361,290 or 32 per cent. in specific value. With the exception of 337 cwt., the produce of this Protectorate, all cotton exported originated in Uganda. Fifteen years ago the export of cotton from the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates did not exceed 500 cwt., whereas shipments during the year under review totalled more than 100,000 cwt. This is, however, still very far from what the country is capable of producing, and it is confidently expected that the encouragement afforded to native growers both by Government and by the enhanced prices realized will result in a largely increased output for export. As regards countries of destination, cotton to the value of £540,648 was consigned to the United Kingdom, and £522,535 to India and Burmah, as against £472,396 and £229,475 respectively in 1917-18.

The second place in the list of exports is taken by coffee, which represented 15 per cent. of the total value of shipments. A striking increase in the export of this product has taken place, 139,404 cwt., valued at £327,880, being shipped during the

year, as against 59,111 cwt., valued at £142,268 exported in 1917 and 1918. The increase of 80,293 cwt., or 136 per cent. in quantity, is due in part to the fact that stocks from previous years were held over for lack of shipping tonnage, but after this factor has been given due consideration it is evident that the production and export of coffee is increasing enormously. Of the total quantity exported 97,330 cwt. were consigned to the United Kingdom, 22,164 cwt. to Egypt, and 9,763 cwt. to the Union of South Africa.

Carbonate of soda is next in importance in the list of exports, 240,133 cwt. valued at £269,258 having been shipped during the year as compared with 93,755 cwt. valued at £111,322 shipped during the previous year. Sixty-three per cent. was consigned to British Possessions and the remainder to foreign countries. Practically the whole of this product is obtained from the natural deposits of soda at Lake Magadi.

Fibre, which includes sisal fibre and flax, represented 10 per cent. of the total exports, 117,442 cwt. valued at £234,814 being shipped during the year. As compared with the previous year an increase of 24,339 cwt. or 26 per cent. in quantity and £32,486 or 16 per cent. in value is shown. Of the total quantity exported 112,007 cwt. valued at £224,025 was sisal fibre.

The increasing importance of flax-growing in this Protectorate is very noticeable, 5,065 cwt. valued at £10,049 being exported during the year, whereas no flax was exported prior to 1916. It may be anticipated that this commodity will shortly occupy a prominent place in the list of exports. The enhanced demand coupled with a grave shortage in the world's supply, should result in a continuance of the high prices now ruling, thereby giving a decided impetus to what is already a most promising industry.

The export of hides and skins shows a retrogression, the value of such exports being £150,012 as compared with £222,425 in 1917 and 1918. It is probable that the export of this commodity would show a better result had it not been for restricted opportunities for shipment. Eighty-two per cent. of the quantity of hides exported was shipped to the United Kingdom and 16 per cent. to Italy. Forty-three per cent. of skins was shipped to the United Kingdom, 38 per cent. to India and 19 per cent. to the United States of America.

The value of combined exports was distributed in the following proportions among the various countries trading with this Protectorate:—United Kingdom, 53·5 per cent.; British Possessions, 37·6 per cent.; Japan, 3·8 per cent.; Italy, 2·3 per cent.; United States of America, 0·5 per cent.; France, 0·5 per cent.; other foreign countries, 1·8 per cent.

General Summary of Trade.—Total trade imports amounted to £3,397,810, an increase of 21 per cent. over the previous year, trade exports being valued at £2,498,574, or 43 per cent. above

the figures for 1917–18. These figures indicate an adverse balance of trade of 26 per cent. as compared with 38 per cent. in the previous year. By including imports and exports of all descriptions, such as Government stores, material for the Uganda Railway, etc., the total value of imports amounted to £4,567,419, and exports £2,498,574, indicating an adverse balance of 45 per cent. as against 71 per cent. in 1917–18.

The adverse balance of trade is, however, rather apparent than real; a large proportion of imports is represented by industrial and agricultural machinery and implements, live stock for breeding purposes, etc., all of which are in the nature of capital expenditure likely to yield a handsome return in the shape of increased exports.

(b) SHIPPING.

Shipping, which was disorganised owing to war conditions, began to show signs of improvement towards the end of the year, but a still further decrease in arrivals and sailings of merchant vessels has to be recorded.

A fairly regular service of steamers of the Clan Ellerman Harrison Line was maintained with Mombasa (Kilindini) but through the exigencies of the war vessels of the Union-Castle, British India Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes and Marittima Italiana Lines, previously trading regularly between this Protectorate and Europe, called only at irregular intervals.

The service of steamers between East Africa and Bombay, although curtailed, was maintained with fair regularity by a branch of the British India Steam Navigation Company.

The total steamers tonnage entered in the coast ports of the Protectorate amounted to 365,472 tons gross, a decrease of 150,278 tons.

III. INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

(a) INDUSTRIES.

(See under Agriculture.)

(b) MINES AND MINERALS.

The continuation of the War stopped practically all mining work by private enterprise.

The demand for mica by the Ministry of Munitions resulted in the Administration undertaking the development of this mineral. Mining was carried out at Sultan Hamud and on the slopes of Mount Kenya at Chuka. A total of approximately 20 tons of rough mica was mined and 2 tons finished by cutting was sent to England.

Development may be said to have reached a paying stage when owing to the Armistice the demand ceased and work was stopped.

IV. AGRICULTURE AND STOCK-RAISING.

(a) CROPS.

The adverse conditions, which prevailed last year, continued and caused a considerable set-back to agricultural industries. The difficulties previously experienced in the importation of machinery were only partially overcome. The drought and the various insect pests which follow in its train caused severe damage. A serious epidemic of influenza overran the country during the year and added to the difficulties of development.

Coffee.—Considerable damage was caused by “thrips” and by the failure of the rains throughout the year. *Hemileia Vastatrix* (Leaf Disease) appeared only in a mild form; it has been found that if proper means of restraint are used, the fungus can easily be kept under control.

The acreage under coffee has not increased greatly, owing to the attention which is being paid to the flax industry in many districts; but the Protectorate coffee readily commands the highest prices on the London market.

Flax.—The flax industry has barely passed the experimental stage; but the acreage under cultivation has been greatly increased, and a number of factories for dealing with the crop on a large scale have been erected in the Highlands of the Protectorate. The situation, at the present time, is most favourable for the development of the crop and great interest is being taken in the industry. Home spinners have given excellent reports on the working qualities of the East African fibre.

Sisal.—This industry continued to flourish to a marked degree during the year, and several new estates were put under cultivation. The average monthly output was about 500 tons. Prices in the Home markets ruled very high.

Maize.—The crop was severely affected by the drought and the yield was much below the normal.

In order to relieve distress due to famine among the native population, Government imported large quantities of maize from South Africa, which was retailed to natives.

Potatoes.—The crop was scarce throughout the year and prices ruled high.

Sugar Cane.—In spite of the serious drought sugar cane has given good results at the Government Experimental Station. In August, 1918, the Chief of the Economic Plants Division made an inspection of the Kibos and Kibigori districts and reported that the soil and climatic conditions were highly favourable to the successful cultivation of sugar cane. As there was a prospect of cultivation being undertaken on a large scale, cuttings of several varieties have been in request for planting purposes, but development has been delayed.

Swamp Rice.—The cultivation of this crop is almost entirely in the hands of natives. Owing to lack of seed in the Protectorate, some 22 tons of Swamp rice seed were imported from India and distributed, but the crop suffered severely from drought.

Coconuts.—Attention, during the year, was directed towards keeping the established plantations in good order rather than to new development.

Fruit.—In several districts in the Highlands good crops of apples, peaches, and plums were harvested. Oranges and other members of the citrus family also gave good results. There is a good local market for all fruit, and further attention is being devoted to this branch of agriculture.

(b) STOCK.

Cattle suffered considerably from the long drought; many old cattle died and young stock received a severe check.

Unfortunately rinderpest broke out in the Rift Valley, with the result that double inoculation was considered advisable on most farms.

The demand for pure bred bulls was very keen and further consignments were imported from South Africa. The supply was far short of the demand, and another consignment is being selected in South Africa. The principal breeds used for grading are Shorthorn, Friesland, Ayrshire and Herefords. All these breeds cross well with the native cow, and results show a marked improvement both in beef and milk.

Sheep.—The sheep industry covers a very limited area from Kijabe to Elmenteita, Molo district, Laikipia and West Kenya. Excellent results are still being obtained from grading up with the Merino ram. There is a keen demand for mutton grade rams.

Wool sent to the London market has realized good prices.

Scab causes the sheep farmers considerable anxiety and expense, and the sheep require regular dosing for internal parasites.

Pigs.—The pig industry has received a severe set-back, owing to the high price of maize. Many farmers were forced to dispose of their stock. Those who have continued should now do well, as 50 cents. per lb. live weight is a very high price. Wild pigs died in large numbers near Naivasha in September and October from swine fever or rinderpest.

Donkeys.—The crossing of the native donkey with Catalonian Jack has proved a great success. The progeny of the Catalonian Jack, mated with the half-bred donkey mares, shows a marked improvement on the half-breds.

(c) EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

Kabete.

Maize.—An area of 42 acres was planted during April, 1918, the varieties being "Hickory King" and "Iowa Silver Mine." The former yielded $6\frac{1}{2}$ bags of 200 lb. to the acre and the latter 5 bags.

Beans.—Forty-three acres were planted in April. They were harvested in four months and yielded 6 bags of 200 lb. to the acre.

Wheat.—Twenty-five acres were planted and harvested in four months, the average yield being rather less than 400 lb. to the acre, and the maximum yield 650 lb. to the acre.

Potatoes.—A considerable acreage was planted with "King of the Early." The crop was planted in September and grown under irrigation, yielding at the rate of 5 tons per acre.

Tea.—The trees withstood the drought satisfactorily, and it is possible that they may do quite well under more favourable conditions.

Coffee.—The trees were damaged by "thrips," and the yield during the year was very light.

Sugar Cane.—One acre of each of the following varieties was planted in April, 1918:—"Seely Seedling," "No. 3,922," "No. 156," and "No. 1,528"; all varieties have given good results.

Naivasha.

Cattle.—Stock has experienced the worst year in the history of the farm. The young stock suffered severely and received a set-back, from which they will take a long time to recover.

Rinderpest made its appearance during August and September.

Sheep.—In spite of the drought the sheep have been fairly healthy.

Two Suffolk rams were imported from South Africa to mate with grade Suffolk ewes. This produces a good grade Suffolk ram, which is in great demand.

The two Lincoln rams imported from Australia in 1917 have been mated with grade Lincoln Merino ewes. The progeny appear to lack constitution. Forty-nine bales of wool weighing 21,964 lb., and one bale of mohair weighing 464 lb. were despatched to London on 1st January, 1919.

Donkeys.—The new Catalonian Jack crossing with the half-bred mares shows a marked improvement, but the increase is disappointing.

(d) DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

Diseases of Cattle.

East Coast Fever.—During the year under review, 141 outbreaks of East Coast Fever were reported; of this number, 41 occurred on the Uasin Gishu Plateau, where infectivity has greatly increased owing to illicit movement of stock and insufficient attention being paid to the strength of dipping fluids.

Two outbreaks occurred in each of the clean districts of Limoru and Elmenteita. All native reserves are infected areas, and it is reported that the disease has increased considerably in the Masai Reserve.

An endeavour was made to re-infect the Kamiti testing area, which had been out of use for 18 months. Susceptible animals placed on the area have, with few exceptions, failed to contract the disease. It is hoped to open this boma for testing immunity during the next year.

Fourteen dipping tanks were inspected by Engineers of the Public Works Department and twelve of these were passed as having been built in accordance with the Government plan and specification. A public dipping tank was built at Gilgil. There are now 160 dipping tanks in the country.

Rinderpest.—During the year disease was widespread. In some cases the disease is said to have spread by infected eland and warthog. During the period under review, 69,493 head of cattle, the property of settlers, squatters and transport riders, were subjected to double inoculation against rinderpest. Owing to shortage of staff it was not possible to detail a Veterinary Officer to enquire into losses following inoculation, but so far as can be ascertained the mortality rarely exceeded 5 per cent., the average losses reported being 2 per cent.

In certain areas higher rates of mortality were experienced, reaching 11·5 per cent. at Naivasha. This was, on enquiry, found to be due to infection of redwater and anaplasmosis and insufficient care as to grazing at the critical period.

Pleuro-Pneumonia.—Several outbreaks in the settled areas have been reported and dealt with during the year. The disease is still rampant in the Masai Reserve, where it was found that, from a mob of 3,332 apparently healthy oxen collected at random, 889 showed, on post mortem examination, lesions of varying degrees of severity of pleuro-pneumonia.

Foot and Mouth Disease.—In March outbreaks of this disease were reported throughout the country. This disease runs a very mild course, affects stock of all ages, and causes no mortality.

Anthrax.—Twenty-seven cases were reported during the year. The disease was dealt with by double vaccine inoculation. Two forms of anthrax are found throughout the country, the splenic

and the subcutaneous. The former shows no clinical symptoms and the animal is usually found dead ; in the subcutaneous form diffuse swellings are found in different parts of the body and in many cases the animal recovers. Native cattle show a degree of natural resistance, as the disease is known to exist in nearly all Native Reserves.

Trypanosomiasis.—Five outbreaks occurred at Thika and may have resulted from one of two causes :—

(1) A latent infection from a previous outbreak, transmitted mechanically by such means as the ordinary *Stomoxys* biting fly.

(2) Direct infection from the bite of tsetse-fly.

It was proved that at least one outbreak coincided with the near encroachment of buffalo from the Ithanga hills. Tsetse-flies will follow herds of buffalo for some miles ; and it can be assumed, in certain cases at least, that the tsetse-fly was the primary cause of infection. Other minor outbreaks occurred in Nairobi and Uasin Gishu.

When the presence of tsetse-fly is negatived on an infected estate, it must be assumed that the ordinary blood-sucking fly is the active agent in spreading the infection from some imported infected animal. Support is lent to this theory by the fact that, in certain infected farms, where regular dipping was practised, cases rapidly diminished in number and the disease ultimately disappeared.

Colon Bacillosis.—In dealing with this disease a standard Colon Bacillosis vaccine is issued by the Laboratory with satisfactory results.

Anaplasmosis.—There is evidence that this disease is considerably on the increase among grade and imported stock.

Redwater.—Outbreaks were reported from Gilgil, Naivasha, Muhoroni, Molo and Uasin Gishu. Trypanblau is a specific in the treatment of the disease.

Black Quarter.—Vaccination has proved very satisfactory, with the result that no outbreaks of importance have been notified during the year.

Diseases of Equines.

Horse Sickness.—No case was reported in Nairobi during the year, as compared with 14 cases in the preceding year. Three cases were reported from the Uasin Gishu Plateau.

Glanders.—One case was found among military horses ; the incontacts were malleined and no reactions resulted.

Lymphangitis.—This disease has shown a marked tendency in the last two years to spread throughout the Protectorate Whereas the number of cases treated was about the same as in the preceding year, the fresh areas affected have increased considerably.

A successful treatment for epizootic lymphangitis has been found to be Mercury Biniodid or Potassium Iodide dissolved in water, and given daily until the lesions begin to reduce, which in mild cases usually takes place in a month.

The vaccine treatment for ulcerative lymphangitis is still fairly satisfactory. Counter-irritation in the case of thickened legs has given good results in conjunction with vaccination.

Diseases of Sheep and Goats.

Heartwater.—An outbreak of Heartwater was reported from the Rift Valley and heavy losses resulted, in spite of dipping at fourteen days' interval. There were few cases of diseases of sheep and goats reported during the year; this is attributed to the abnormally dry weather.

Diseases of the Pig.

Swine Fever.—Outbreaks of swine fever were reported. No advance has been made in obtaining a preventive serum against this disease, as little success has attended the numerous experiments carried out at the Veterinary Laboratory at Kabete.

V.—FORESTS.

No new forest areas were proclaimed during the year and no alterations were made in the forest boundaries.

Legislation has been introduced making it illegal to place honey "barrels," or search for honey in any forest area except under licence, on account of the great damage caused by reckless use of fire by honey-hunters.

Provision has also been made for the payment of a royalty on timber and firewood cut in the Nyika Reserve for use outside the Reserve.

Timber.

The demand for local timber continued to be in excess of the supply.

Saw milling machinery has been difficult to acquire.

459,944 cu. ft. of timber were sold, compared with 389,121 cu. ft. in 1917-18.

17,836 cu. ft. of timber were issued free to Government Departments, free timber permit holders and natives, compared with 52,634 cu. ft. in 1917-18.

During the year ending 31st December, 1918, the quantity of timber sold, including the output of the mills working the forests, the subject of the Grogan licence, amounted to 459,944 cu. ft., as compared with 389,121 cu. ft. in 1917.

Saw Mills.

Eleven saw mills were operating in the Government forests throughout the year.

Railway Fuel.

Camps were maintained at Molo, Elburgon and Escarpment for the supply of wood fuel to the railway.

2,696,536 cu. ft. of wood fuel were taken over by the railway from contractors cutting in Government forests, as compared with 2,625,496 cu. ft. in the previous year.

The total quantity of wood fuel taken over by the railway throughout the whole length of the line was 5,433,912 cu. ft., as compared with 5,037,497 cu. ft. in 1917-18.

Forest Fires.

The year was most disastrous as far as fires were concerned owing to the long drought.

At Kijabe 50 acres of cedar forest were destroyed and in Njoro district 50 acres of scrub forest and 60 acres of bamboos were destroyed. In the Sclater Road district of the Tinderet forest, 30 acres, which were being exploited for timber, were practically destroyed.

Many other small fires, doing much damage, were caused by native honey-hunters—especially in Naivasha District.

Silviculture.

The year was not propitious for planting owing to the deficiency of rain everywhere except on the coast.

The total area planted was 1,066 acres of which 599 acres was re-forestation of areas cut over for railway fuel.

Revenue.

The total cash revenue for the year amounted to £11,911 as compared with £11,980 in the preceding year. Revenue derived from royalties on mangrove bark showed a large falling-off, due to the lack of shipping prohibiting export.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £13,788 as compared with £11,276 in 1917-18. A sum of £820 was contributed by the Uganda Railway towards the cost of replanting areas felled for the supply of wood fuel. The nett cost was, therefore, £12,968.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

*(a) RAILWAYS.**Uganda Railway.*

The year under review was again influenced very considerably by military operations, more especially towards the latter part

when demobilization took place; the result of the work compared with the Estimates is as follows:—

	<i>Actual.</i>	<i>Estimates.</i>
	£	£
Expenditure ..	493,213	520,892
Gross Revenue ..	645,468	750,000
Nett Revenue ..	152,255	229,108

giving a deficit in nett Revenue over the Estimates of £76,853.

Goods Receipts increased to Rs.4,922,994, from Rs.4,625,345 in 1917-18, and Coaching Receipts decreased to Rs.3,208,135 from Rs.3,634,455 for last year.

During the year £174,349 or 27 per cent. of the gross receipts were derived from military traffic.

The gross revenue was the third highest on record, being £1,618 less than 1917-18.

The nett earnings showed a further decrease, being £56,731 less than in 1917-18: they represent an interest of 2·33 per cent. on the Capital outlay as compared with 3·21 per cent. in 1917-18 and 5·41 per cent. in 1916-17. The lower percentage of this year is due entirely to the increased cost of working.

The total tonnage handled was 237,976 as against 221,601 last year and 328,130 in 1916-17.

Marine Department.

Owing to the war, traffic on the lake was again low and has been handled with two ships and tugs with lighters, the steamers "Winifred," "Sybil" and "Nyanza" being laid up for the whole year.

The "Nyanza" has been fitted with the oil fuel installation; this now gives a total of four steamers so fitted.

The mileage run during the year amounted to 62,852, as against 95,087 for 1917-18.

The tonnage carried by the Lake Steamers was 39,521, the highest figure since 1914-15.

The Steamboat earnings came to Rs.882,254, against last year's figures of Rs.938,352; passengers earned Rs.334,233 and goods Rs.542,747, against Rs.360,504 and Rs.542,987 for 1917-18.

Expenditure has dropped from Rs.853,820 in 1917-18 to Rs.822,999, owing to the decrease in mileage run, but the cost of maintenance and general stores, owing to the high prices of all materials, has increased.

Busoga Railway and Marine.

For the first time in the history of this Railway a sum of Rs.114,750 interest on the capital cost has been included in the expenditure, therefore no correct comparison can be made with the workings of previous years without deducting this amount from the expenditure.

The statement of receipts and expenditure shows a nett loss of £9,251 against last year's nett profit of £876, but if the Loan Charges are deducted the nett loss only amounts to £1,601.

Receipts show a decrease of Rs.6,740, due to the poor cotton crop, which earned Rs.23,000 less than in the previous year.

Excluding Loan Charges, expenditure shows an increase of Rs.30,419, principally due to the high cost of rations and material used in the maintenance of rolling stock and steamers.

In the Marine Department passenger earnings showed an increase as compared with last year—Rs.38,186 against Rs.30,981—whereas merchandise decreased from Rs.143,126 to Rs.125,284 due to the poor cotton crop.

Port Bell-Kampala Railway.

This Railway also has had to bear for the first time an expenditure of £1,645 on account of Loan Charges; if this sum were excluded the nett earnings would amount to £1,236 against £1,268 for the previous year.

Coaching traffic increased by Rs.3,500 and goods by Rs.1,500.

(b) POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The East Africa and Uganda Post and Telegraph Services comprise 118 Post Offices and agencies, of which 92 are in this Protectorate and 26 in Uganda.

There are 41 Money Order Offices and 110 Telegraph Offices. The development of the Post and Telegraph system has been arrested owing to the War, and a considerable expansion of existing services will have to be provided for as soon as circumstances permit.

The total Postal and Telegraph Revenue of the two Protectorates amounted to £74,950, an increase of 13·3 per cent. on £66,116, the revenue in 1917-18.

The departmental expenditure, including the cost of telegraph and telephone construction and maintenance, in both Protectorates, amounted to £68,299 as compared with £72,639 in 1917-18, a decrease of 5·97 per cent.

Postal Matter.

The number of letters, postcards, newspapers and book packets dealt with during 1918-19 is estimated at 7,386,245, of which 1,649,922 were official and free (soldiers) letters.

Parcel Post.

During the whole of the year under review parcels post from India was suspended; there is accordingly a decrease in the number of parcels dealt with in the two Protectorates. The number for this year was 93,713, as compared with 102,936 in 1917-18, a decrease of 9 per cent. The parcels imported from abroad were valued at £171,321. The Customs duty collected by the post office amounted to £15,704.

Money Orders.

The money order business shows an increase in value, but a decrease in the number of orders. The increase in the value of orders occurred mainly in respect of remittances to the United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa, and is attributed to the favourable rate of exchange between East Africa and countries of sterling currency.

Post Office Savings Bank.

As in the preceding year, the amount withdrawn exceeded that deposited. This was due mainly to the closing of 3,000 accounts standing to the credit of native troops of the King's African Rifles.

Telegraphs.

During the year 636,073 telegrams and cablegrams were dealt with, as compared with 603,127 in 1917-18. The total includes 60,424 telegrams received from Conquered Territory. The number of telegrams forwarded on the service of other Government Departments was 171,623, of which 107,692 were military messages.

Wireless Telegraph.

The wireless stations erected at Mombasa and Kismayu were opened for public traffic.

Telephones.

Towards the end of the year it was possible to obtain a certain amount of telephone material from the military, and, in consequence, development of public facilities was recommended on a limited scale, which resulted in 68 additional telephones being installed for private subscribers.

VII.—CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH.

It may be said that the general health of all sections of the community, almost without exception, during the year, was exceptionally bad. There was a considerable addition to the number of cases treated, which, even allowing for the normal rise in attendance at hospitals consequent on the development of the country, was much above the average. The mortality was abnormal, due to a variety of explainable causes which could not be controlled. The effects of the year's work was further reflected in the increase of the invaliding rate amongst the official class. Stoppage of leave, the withdrawal of every available man either from his billet here or who might have been selected to fill that post from home, resulted in the retention of an understaffed, overtaxed body of war-stale Government servants to carry on the administration of the country.

Briefly, the conditions which so adversely affected the country were the universal drought throughout the greater part of the year, due to the failure of both rains; and the consequent famine conditions which greatly stimulated the continued existence of the usual communicable diseases. It became apparent that the return of large numbers of discharged soldiers and Carrier Corps porters had, and is having, its inevitable effect on the country; this, in spite of the most admirable efforts of the work of the medical staff of the Carrier Corps. It was not possible for the civil department to take over the segregation of disease "carriers." Thus it was that various diseases became especially prominent. The rapid spread of *tuberculosis* is becoming a serious menace. Equally with the rest of the world, this Protectorate was devastated by *influenza*, which swept like a tidal wave to its very confines, practically exhausting itself after nine weeks. Generally speaking, the most noticeable thing about it was that its virulence was more deadly in the colder up-country regions than in the moister and hotter coast areas. One condition which the progress of medical work during the War has demonstrated very clearly is the enormous liability of the African to helminthic affections. Fully three-quarters of the native population is infected, and the question of *ankylostomiasis* alone must have a marked bearing on the labour market. In fact, it is possible that the African lethargy inherent in this tropical region is largely dependent on this cause.

(b) SANITATION—(1) PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Malaria.

In the principal towns trained anti-malarial gangs are employed clearing drains, filling in excavations, and oiling water.

Plague.

Rat trapping and systematic investigation have been continued throughout the year though the Coast and Nairobi were free and only one case was reported from Kisumu and eight at Nakuru. Voluntary prophylactic inoculations have been popular among Asiatic communities.

Small Pox.

A satisfactory vaccine has not yet been prepared that affords complete immunity.

The experience gathered is that no strain, whether from overseas or locally prepared, has been successful over a prolonged period unless it has been reinforced. Generally a new strain has been substituted for the old.

(2) GENERAL MEASURES.

Sewage Disposal.

No advance has been made as regards the disposal of sewage by water-borne system or other treatment. The disposal of night

soil by dumping in the sea, trenching, incineration, collection in cesspools, or distribution on the ground are in no instance satisfactory, and within some of the more settled areas constitute a danger to the public health.

Scavenging.

With the exception of Kisumu, the responsibility for conservancy in the chief towns is vested in local authorities. The disposal generally adopted is by means of dumping, burning or burial.

Water Supply.

The supplies to the principal towns remain in the same state as last year. Financial restrictions have obviated their safeguarding by means of filtration, chemical treatment, and protection of intake and gathering grounds.

Drainage.

Five hundred yards of new drains have been constructed in Mombasa and 44 yards in Kisumu. The Health Office staff have continued the work of clearing earth drains and channels for the public benefit.

Bush Clearing.

The Health Office staff have continued this important work in the chief townships, and in places where it has been impossible to supervise the work monetary grants have been made for the maintenance of gangs.

VIII. NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

The year bore heavily on the native population owing to the famine and the influenza epidemic. Administration, therefore, already hampered by depletion of staff and with many officials long overdue for leave, was carried on with some difficulty. The relations with natives were peaceful, with two exceptions. A raid by Loita and Purko Moran into the Occupied Territory rendered an armed patrol necessary; peaceful conditions were quickly restored. A raid by the Elgeyo upon the Plateau farms was quickly followed by the recovery of the cattle and the imposition of a fine.

IX. EDUCATION.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

European Schools.

(1) *Nairobi Division "A" School.*—The shortage of staff has been serious and influenza prevented the holding of examinations.

Structural additions include a new Staff double bungalow, dining room and bath rooms.

(2) *Nakuru Division "A" School.*—The work of this school has been satisfactory. A house for eight boarders was opened.

(3) *Central School, Eldoret.*—The improvement in this school has been very marked. A house to accommodate 48 boarders is under construction.

Indian Schools.

(4) *Nairobi Division "B" School.*—This school has maintained a satisfactory standard. All available accommodation has been filled, necessitating a waiting list for pupils.

(5) *Mombasa Division "B" School.*—The progress of this school has been maintained. Further accommodation is required.

Arab School.

(6) *Mombasa Division "C" School.*—Examinations at this school showed good results. Attendance has increased from 15 pupils in 1914 to 69 in 1919. Discipline and general tone has improved.

NATIVE EDUCATION.

Increasing interest in education is being taken by natives, particularly of the Kavirondo, Kikuyu and Akamba tribes.

A satisfactory report was received from the Headmaster of the Machakos Industrial School.

The Church Missionary Society's Stations at Maseno, Kikuyu, and Mombasa, each received a grant of £600 towards the foundation of training colleges for native teachers, who are in great demand.

X. LAND AND SURVEYS.

(a) LANDS.

Revenue.—The estimated revenue in respect of rents was £25,000, of which £23,925 was actually collected.

£616 was collected on freeholds and homesteads, where £100 only was estimated. This was due to purchasers paying their balances in lump sums on converting leasehold land into freehold.

£12,405 was collected from stand premia, where £4,000 only was estimated. This increase was due to the sale of residential plots in Mombasa in September which was not anticipated in the Estimates.

Expenditure.—The expenditure for the year amounted to £7,562, showing a saving in the estimate of £1,523.

Alienation of Land.—The total number of alienations for 1918 was 89, totalling 177,435 acres, compared with 98 grants in the previous year comprising 242,244 acres.

Of these 89, 75 represent grants in substitution for licences, agreements, old leases of farms and plots, and sub-divisional new leases for which new titles were issued in 1918, so that the actual number of new grants was only 14, representing 56,198 acres. Of these 14, 10 grants were farms and 4 business, sports, and other plots.

Coast Land Settlement.

Revenue.—The total revenue during the year amounted to Rs.31,953, an increase over 1917–18 of Rs.8,272.

The revenue outstanding on account of certificates issued, Court costs, etc., amounts to Rs.29,531 as against Rs.40,881 outstanding on 31st March, 1918.

Expenditure.—The expenditure amounted to Rs.55,016.

(b) SURVEYS.

No actual field work was carried out during the year, but in January the Deputy Director returned to duty from active service and was followed by his surveyors. The whole staff had been on active service since August, 1914.

Trigonometrical Work.

(a) Major and minor triangulation has been completed on the following areas :—

- (1) Lake Magadi to the Uganda Railway which was run and completed before the outbreak of war. There was a triangular error of $2'' \cdot 25$.
- (2) Extension of the Protectorate triangulation from the Athi Plains Base Extension into Conquered Territory to Lolkissale, south of Arusha. There was a triangular error of $4'' \cdot 37$.

(b) The total area covered by major triangulation is approximately 10,000 square miles.

(c) In the course of the period under review an extremely useful series of triangles was observed by officers of the Land Survey serving with the King's African Rifles. The area covered is to the West of Lake Rudolf from the Turkwell River north to the Soudan Boundary and was about 20,000 square miles in extent with a triangular error of about $30''$. Twenty-nine points were fixed by triangulation.

Topographical Work.

From June, 1914, to the outbreak of war the plane tablers were employed on the survey of the Kericho sheet, and had completed about one-third of the sheet when they were mobilized. These sheets are still incomplete.

In the course of the military operations a considerable amount of new survey was carried out between Kajiado and Mount Kilimanjaro.

In the Turkana District, west of Lake Rudolf, a useful series of topographical sheets was surveyed and drawn, based on the Turkana triangulation mentioned under Trigonometrical Work.

Drawing and Compilation for Printing.

The following sheets have been sent to the War Office for printing during the period under review :—

1 : 250,000 $\frac{\text{S.A.37}}{\text{B.}}$ Kenya. (Final Sheet.)

1 : 500,000 $\frac{\text{N.A.36, N.A.37.}}{\text{E. \& F. W. \& X.}}$ In one sheet covering 4 square degrees.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Commandant, King's African Rifles, and his loan of two non-commissioned officers, the whole of the sheets in the Northern Frontier District were recompiled early in 1919. The new compilation is still far from satisfactory, but it is hoped that a second revision of this compilation which is now in progress will produce a set of sheets which will be worth printing.

XI.—GAME.

Revenue from Licences was only £1,909, the lowest figure during the last ten years.

No Sportsman's Licence was issued during the year ; but there was a slight increase in the number of Residents' Licences due to the return of many of the local residents from the front.

GAME RESERVES.

Northern Reserve.—The Northern Reserve has been heavily poached by the Turkana and other hunters, and, at present, it is quite impossible to do anything to prevent it.

Southern Reserve.—The reports on elephant in the Southern Reserve are most satisfactory ; the herds driven in by war conditions seem to have settled down in their new quarters.

Satisfactory reports of the number of young animals have been received, and it looks as if a good breeding herd had taken up its abode in the Reserve.

Satisfactory reports have been received as to the numbers of rhinoceros, giraffe, buffalo, eland and various other animals.

GAME OUTSIDE THE RESERVE.

Considerable damage has been done by elephants on the Coast, but, generally, it may be said that elephants have been less troublesome than usual. The increase is still maintained and, though there is not a great amount of heavy ivory, there are certainly more warrantable bulls than there were a few years ago. Rhinoceros have probably decreased in numbers. Roan continue to increase slightly. Hippopotami have suffered badly in the Athi and Tana Rivers, where they fall an easy prey to the native with poisoned arrows. The ordinary game is still plentiful, though, naturally, there is a considerable decrease in numbers in all settled areas.

XII. PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure of the Department during the year amounted to £174,671, of which sum "Major Works" accounted for £31,310. The principal item of expenditure under the latter head was the sum of £10,598 expended upon the enlargement and equipment of the Veterinary Pathological Depot at Kabete. Among other outstanding works may be mentioned additions to the European School at Nairobi; school buildings on the Uasin Gishu; an extension to the High Court at Nairobi, and work at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Nairobi. Quarters for Government Staff at Nairobi and Mombasa were provided to a total value of £3,604, and various engineering works in the Native Reserves cost £2,299. Work was begun upon additions to the Lunatic Asylum, Nairobi.

Among "Minor Works" may be mentioned a branch Veterinary Laboratory in the Masai Reserve; a new Police Station on the West side of Nairobi; Mycological Laboratory; extension to Chemical Laboratory; a wing comprising quarters for nursing sisters at the European Hospital, Nairobi; additions to European School, Nakuru; additions to the Arab School at Mombasa; and preliminary work in connection with a Cottage Hospital, Eldoret.

On New Roads and Bridges expenditure occurred on 28 small items to a total value of £11,022. Expenditure for the maintenance and repair of roads and bridges amounted to £35,146. The administration of the Mombasa Water Supply remained in the hands of the Department, and the revenue accruing from the operation of this project more than sufficed to pay interest and sinking fund on the Loan Vote for the project, and to maintain existing works satisfactorily.

XIII. POPULATION.

The estimated European population of the East Africa Protectorate on the 31st December, 1918, was 5,570. Of these 2,493 were adult males, 1,523 were adult females, and 1,554 were children of both sexes. Of the adult males 2,276 were British and 217 were of foreign nationalities. They were classified as follows :—

Government Officials	..	..	..	598
Planters and Farmers	..	..	..	1,195
Commercial	..	..	..	498
Missionaries	..	..	..	123
Professional Men	..	..	..	57
Unclassified	..	..	..	22

The population according to Provinces is set out in the following statement :—

Province.	Euro- peans.	• In- dians.	Goans.	Arabs.	Other races.	Natives.	TOTAL.
Jubaland ..	17	301	17	1,284	16	13,316	14,951
Nyanza	314	1,873	156	63	13	1,073,947	1,076,366
Tanaland ..	14	712	40	1,564	6	40,223	42,559
Naivasha ..	1,919	690	141	29	3	115,128	117,910
Ukamba ..	2,530	6,154	951	47	19	357,363	367,064
Seyidie ..	377	5,188	619	4,467	34	159,923	170,608
Northern Frontier District ..	17	3	6	10	—	89,406	89,442
Kenya	316	311	50	2	135	705,720	706,534
Masai	66	175	40	2	10	41,353	41,646
TOTAL ..	5,570	15,407	2,020	7,468	236	2,596,379	2,627,080

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1037	St. Vincent	1918-1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	1918-1919
1041	Nyasaland	1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1043	Grenada	1919-1920
1044	Bermuda	1919
1045	Basutoland	"
1046	Cyprus	1919-1920
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	1919
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	1918-1919
1054	Uganda	1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	1919
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1919-1920
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	1919-1920
1067	Jamaica	1919
1068	British Guiana	"
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	1919-1920
1072	Barbados	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1074.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918-19 see No. 1031.)



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No. 1074.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1919-20.*

THE Leeward Islands form the most northerly group of the "Lesser Antilles" in the West Indies, and lie between $18^{\circ}27'$ and $15^{\circ}10'$. The Colony is now a federation, comprising the five "Presidencies,"—formerly separate colonies—of Antigua, St. Christopher (usually called St. Kitts), with which Presidency is included Nevis, Dominica, Montserrat, and the Virgin Islands.

2. The governments of the first three Presidencies are each administered by an "Administrator," while the officers in charge of the two smaller Presidencies of Montserrat and the Virgin Islands have the title of "Commissioner." All the Presidencies form together one colony under a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is resident at Antigua, the headquarters of the Colony. When the Governor is visiting other Presidencies the Colonial Secretary assumes, under a dormant commission, the office of Administrator of Antigua; and similarly when the Governor is away from the Colony the Colonial Secretary assumes the administration of the government of the whole Colony.

3. *Councils.*—There is an Executive and a Legislative Council for the colony, and also separate Executive and Legislative Councils for each of the four larger Presidencies, the Virgin Islands having only an Executive Council.

The Legislative Council of the Colony consists of eight official and eight elective members, three of the elective members being chosen by the unofficial members of the Antigua Legislative Council, three by those of St. Kitts, and two by those of Dominica.

I. FINANCIAL

The aggregate revenue of the various Presidencies comprising the colony of the Leeward Islands during the financial year ended March 31st, 1920, was £240,476, showing an increase of £42,457, in comparison with the revenue for the year 1918-19.

The expenditure for the year 1919-20, exclusive of Imperial grants, was £220,578, as against £202,054 for the previous year, showing an increase of £18,524.

* Maps will be found in the Report for 1913-14, No. 814 [Cd. 7622-32].

The excess of assets over liabilities of £54,292, on March 31st, 1920, was made up as follows :—

Antigua	..	..	..	£7,454
St. Kitts-Nevis	..	..	..	17,813
Montserrat	..	..	..	21,947
Dominica	..	..	..	894
Virgin Islands	..	..	..	6,184
				<hr/>
				£54,292

The public debt of the Colony, secured on the general revenues of the Presidencies, amounts to £251,250.

The following table shows the amount of the loans raised and the amounts standing to the credit of the Sinking Funds on March 31st, 1920.

Presidency.	Total amount of loans raised.		Amount to credit of Sinking Fund.
Antigua	£115,900	..	£57,641
St. Kitts-Nevis	59,250	..	26,248
Dominica	65,000	..	32,128
Montserrat	11,100	..	5,372
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£251,250	£121,389

II. IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND SHIPPING.

IMPORTS.

The total value of the imports for the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1919, exclusive of internal trade between the Presidencies, amounted to £931,780, as against £866,521 in 1918, being an increase of £65,259.

The value of the internal trade between the Presidencies amounted to £42,832, as against £41,880, being an increase of £952.

EXPORTS.

The total value of exports for the year 1919 was £1,172,775, as against £912,877 in 1918, being an increase of £259,898.

Total Tonnage of Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1918.	1919.
Antigua	401,506	538,983
St. Kitts-Nevis	462,083	578,890
Dominica	397,658	503,509
Montserrat	168,375	302,629
Virgin Islands	11,248	13,059

III. LEGISLATION.

Seventeen Federal Acts and sixty-eight Presidential Ordinances were passed during the year.

In No. 8 of the Federal Acts power is taken to expel undesirable persons from the Colony, and No. 9 prohibits the publication and importation of seditious newspapers, books, and documents.

IV. EDUCATION.

(A) ELEMENTARY.

The number of Elementary Schools in the Colony in the year under review was 98, distributed as follows :—

Presidency.	Government.	State-aided.	Total.
1. { Antigua	17	1	18
Barbuda			
2. { St. Kitts	16	2	18
Nevis	10	—	10
3. { Anguilla	5	—	5
Dominica	23	3	26
4. Montserrat	—	13	13
5. Virgin Islands	—	7	7
		Total	97

The numbers enrolled and in average attendance were :—

Whole Colony.	1918-19.	1919-20.
Number on roll.. ..	22,527	23,396
Average attendance ..	10,607	10,088

The total expenditure in the Primary Schools, exclusive of salaries of the departmental officers and of establishment charges, was £10,188 0s. 2½d., against £9,256 in the previous year.

(B) SECONDARY.

The following is a list of the Secondary Schools of the Colony, with their respective grants :—

School.	Grants.
1. Antigua Grammar School	£444 0 0
2. Antigua Girls' High School	150 0 0
3. Dominica Grammar School	446 0 0
4. St. Kitts-Nevis Grammar School..	320 0 0
5. Girls' High School, St. Kitts	75 0 0
6. Excelsior School, Nevis	50 0 0
7. Thomas Oliver Memorial School, Antigua	40 0 0
8. Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua	180 0 0

The Primary Schools in Antigua, Dominica and St. Kitts-Nevis are all under direct Government control, and are managed by a Sub-inspector of Schools in each Presidency.

In Montserrat and the Virgin Islands they are, with one exception, denominational, and are managed by the clergy of the various denominations. The Schools are examined annually by

the Inspector of Schools, and grants are awarded on the result of this examination. The pupil teacher system is in vogue, the period of service being three years. Studentships are awarded to specially selected candidates at the end of their pupil teachership. Those for girls are held at the Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua, and those for boys at the Rawle Training Institute, Codrington College, Barbados, for two years to complete their training as assistant teachers.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

In the year 1919, 3,688 patients were admitted into the hospitals of the Colony, as against 3,578 in the previous year; 335 deaths occurred in the hospitals during the year.

There is a Central Lunatic Asylum at Skerretts, Antigua. At the end of 1919 there were 149 inmates, while the average number was 158 (64 males and 94 females).

There are two Leper Asylums in the Colony, one at Rat Island, Antigua, and the other at Fort Charles, St. Kitts. In Antigua, 30 inmates remained in the Institution at the end of the year, the average daily number being 14 males and 16 females. In St. Kitts the daily average number was 73—42 males and 31 females.

The number of depositors in the Savings Banks on March 31st, 1920, was 2,501, and the amount to their credit was £56,839 6s. 4d.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The total number of persons in the Colony committed to prison during the year 1919 was 1,030 (631 males, 376 females and 23 juveniles), as against 1,498 (961 males, 528 females and 9 juveniles) in 1918.

Prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment are sent to the Common Prison of the Leeward Islands, in Antigua, and immediately before the expiration of their sentences are returned to the Presidencies from which they were committed. In 1919, 33 prisoners were transferred to the Central Prison, 20 being sent from St. Kitts-Nevis, 7 from Dominica, and 6 from Montserrat.

The daily average of the St. John's Training School in Antigua, to which boys are sent from all the Presidencies, and which was established under the provisions of the Leeward Islands Act, No. 4, of 1891, for the reformation, education, and training of boys under 18 years of age, was 69. The expenditure was £1,141, and the receipts £603, the cost per head to Antigua being £19 7s. 2d. The health of the school was good. The boys were employed in agricultural and garden work in addition to the ordinary indoor work of the school.

Comparative table of criminal statistics for 1918 and 1919 :—

	1918.	1919.
Cases reported to the Police	9,926 ..	8,367
Number of persons brought before the Magisterial Courts	16,650 ..	17,624
Summary Convictions ..	8,122 ..	9,301
Indictments in the Superior Courts	182 ..	103
Convictions in the Superior Courts	129 ..	64

VII. POLICE.

The actual strength of the Force on March 31st, 1920, was 6 officers and 144 non-commissioned officers and men, whereas the authorised establishment, as provided for in the Estimates, was 6 officers and 182 non-commissioned officers and men. The Force was, therefore, 38 men under strength on March 31st, 1920.

One officer and 17 non-commissioned officers and men who had been serving abroad with the British West Indies Regiment returned to the Colony at the end of 1919; of these 9 non-commissioned officers resigned from the Force on their return, and of the 8 men who continued their service 5 have since resigned.

Seventeen men were enlisted during the year, being an increase of three over the figures for 1918-19. Recruiting has been most disappointing in view of the fact that the pay of the non-commissioned officers and men has been increased by 25 per cent. since January 1st, 1920.

The actual expenditure on the Leeward Islands Police Force for the year ended March 31st, 1920, was £14,585 5s. 2d., as compared with £13,451 2s. 10d. for the previous year, the increase of £1,134 2s. 4d. being mainly attributable to the increases in pay granted from January 1st, 1920, and to the increased cost of clothing and other supplies.

VIII. VITAL STATISTICS.

The total population of the Colony, according to the Census of 1911, was 127,193.

In Antigua, the estimated population on December 31st, 1919, was 31,063. The number of marriages registered in the Presidency in 1919 was 100, as against 93 in 1918, while the births were 1,062, being 34.1 per thousand. The legitimate births were 262 and the illegitimate births 800, the percentage being 24.7 and 75.3 respectively. The deaths during the year numbered 935, which gives a death-rate of 26.9 per thousand. The deaths of children under one year, exclusive of still-births, were 185, or 22.2 per cent. of the total.

In respect of the Presidency of St. Kitts-Nevis the number of inhabitants at the close of 1919 was estimated as follows :—

St. Kitts, 27,193 ; Nevis, 14,390 ; Anguilla, 4,988 ; the birth-rates being St. Kitts 30·6 per thousand, Nevis 30·0 and Anguilla 36·5, while the death-rate for St. Kitts was 25·2 per thousand, for Nevis 20·4, and for Anguilla 13·9. The illegitimate birth-rate for St. Kitts was 22·2 per thousand, for Nevis 17·5, and for Anguilla 18·6, as against the legitimate birth-rate of 8·4 and 12·4 and 15·6 for St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla respectively. The mortality of infants under one year of age is high, being 253·0, 272·3, and 148·6 per thousand of the total death-rate in St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla respectively.

In Dominica the estimated population at the end of 1919 was 40,315. The births registered during the year numbered 1,532, as against 1,516 in 1918, giving a birth-rate of 37·9 per thousand. Illegitimate births exceeded the legitimate by 208 (870, as against 662), the percentage of the legitimate and illegitimate births being respectively 43·2 and 56·8. The total number of registered deaths was 1,070, as against 1,128 in 1918, while the death-rate was 26·4 per thousand. Of the deaths in 1919, 373 were of children under 5 years of age, or 28·7 per cent. of the whole number.

The report on the vital statistics for Montserrat in 1919 shows a population of 11,168 on December 31st, 1919, the births registered being 387, as against 401 in 1918, and showing a birth-rate of 34·3. The legitimate births were 146 and the illegitimate 241, the percentage being 37·7 and 62·3 respectively. The deaths registered were 197, as against 214 in 1918, and the death-rate was 17·5 per thousand, as against 19·1 per thousand in the previous year.

The deaths of children under one year of age were 41, or 20·8 per cent. of the total, as against 22·9 in 1918.

The general health of the Colony during the year was satisfactory, but no great advance in health and sanitary conditions will be made until the people as a whole are brought to realise the importance of cleanliness in elementary habits, and of ventilation and a well regulated diet, especially for infants.

IX. METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Presidency.	*Rainfall.	Maximum Tempera- ture.	Minimum Tempera- ture.	Mean Temperature, 9 a.m.	
				Dry.	Wet.
	In.	°F.	°F.	°F.	°F.
Antigua	49·50	91	59	80·7	75·2
St. Kitts	53·11	91	63	80·6	74·4
Dominica	68·03	—	—	—	—
Montserrat ..	56·85	—	—	—	—
Virgin Islands ..	—	—	—	—	—

* Taken at the Botanical Station.

ANTIGUA.

The average rainfall was taken at 70 stations. The average annual rainfall for 46 years is 44·99 in., and the rainfall for 1919 was 4·57 in. above the average.

The greatest rainfall in 24 hours was 4·41 in. on November 11th; the lowest temperature for the year was also registered on that day.

ST. KITTS.

The mean rainfall for 29 stations in 1919 was 62·84 in.

DOMINICA.

The greatest rainfall in a month was 39·57 in. at Bantridge in May. The mean rainfall at different stations was :—

13 Leeward Stations	..	..	84·36 in.
3 Windward Stations	..	..	134·45 „
4 Inland Stations	..	..	193·59 „
2 Lasoye Stations	..	..	114·43 „

X. POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

British and Foreign mails are conveyed by steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Quebec Steamship Company. The mails are conveyed between Tortola and St. Thomas, and between Tortola and Virgin Gorda by a launch belonging to the Government, and by private boats, as follows :—

From Tortola to St. Thomas about four times a week, and

From Tortola to Virgin Gorda about six times a month.

There is a fortnightly mail service by sailing boat between St. Kitts and Anguilla. A sloop is also subsidised by the Government of Montserrat to take mails and passengers between that Presidency, Antigua, and St. Kitts.

Antigua, St. Kitts and Dominica are in telegraphic communication with each other, the other West Indian Colonies, Europe and America by the cables of the West Indian and Panama Telegraph Company.

There is no communication by telegraph with either Montserrat or the Virgin Islands. Messages can, however, be sent to Montserrat, by flashlight *via* Antigua and to the Virgin Islands by cable *via* St. Thomas. St. Kitts is in heliographic communication with Nevis.

The revenue and expenditure account of the Post Offices of the different Presidencies of the Colony showed a profit of £8,584 7s. 2d.

The Cash on Delivery system between the United Kingdom and the Leeward Islands was revised on January 1st, 1920, and is proving very useful.

XI. CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

His Excellency Sir E. M. Merewether, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., assumed the government on March 7th, 1919, and in the same month the Honourable T. A. V. Best, C.M.G., C.B.E., Colonial Secretary, who had been Acting Governor for the past three years, was appointed Colonial Secretary, Trinidad.

The Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel T. R. St.-Johnston was appointed Colonial Secretary on December 7th, 1919, but did not assume duty until June 12th, 1920.

His Honour W. P. Michelin was appointed Second Puisne Judge on November 26th, 1919.

His Honour A. W. Mahaffy, O.B.E., Administrator of Dominica, died on October 27th and was succeeded by R. Walter, Esq., C.M.G.

His Honour Major H. W. Peebles, D.S.O., was appointed Commissioner of the Virgin Islands on July 11th, 1919.

ANTIGUA.

The revenue for the year 1919-20 reached £70,158, exceeding the estimates by £6,289, as against £63,528 in the previous year, an increase of £6,630, due principally to an increase in the export duty in consequence of an increased crop of the staple industry. The average revenue of the Presidency for the quinquennial period has been £63,182, as compared with £52,768 for the five years antecedent to 1915-16.

The revenue derived from Customs amounted to £43,801, as against £38,496 in the previous year, the increase being attributable to the gain in export duty caused by a better crop, and also to a newly revised scale of duty on sugar and other agricultural products.

The expenditure of the year, estimated at £63,761, reached £70,829, or more than £4,641 in 1918-19, and £18,586 on the average expenditure for the quinquennial period antecedent to the War. This comparatively large increase is due to the high prices of food and other articles used for the Government institutions and works of public utility, and also to the sharp rise in rates of exchange between the United States of America which occurred in the latter part of the year.

Value of the Principal Exports in 1918 and 1919.

	1918.	1919.
Vacuum Pan Sugar	£175,580	£261,648
Muscovado Sugar	8,060	39,176
Molasses and Syrup	33,582	13,738
Cotton	9,938	16,362
Onions	705	377
Hides and Skins	938	1,782
Preserved Fruits	3,672	2,292
Lime Juice	1,249	1,079
Green Limes	113	246
Tamarinds	—	2,264

In Antigua the year 1919 was, from an agricultural point of view, a more satisfactory one than the preceding one, although the rainfall—during the growing season of the canes—was below normal. The average rainfall for the calendar year was 49·56 in., or 9·67 in. higher than that of 1918. More satisfactory arrangements existed with regard to the labour supply—although the latter was limited, and in many instances insufficient.

In the fifteenth annual report of the Antigua Sugar Factory it is shown that the number of tons made was 9,739, as against 7,316 in 1918, and that the total proceeds from sugar and molasses were £252,460, as against £176,835 in 1918. The total expenditure was £124,834, a surplus of £66,003 being thus left for distribution.

Bendals Sugar Factory manufactured 1,500 tons of sugar, equal to one ton of sugar from 9·98 tons of cane. The factory has commenced to lease lands from adjacent estates, and to raise cane upon these lands for supply to the factory, and it is confidently expected that good profits will accrue from this venture.

The area planted in cotton during the year 1919-20 shows a slight decrease in acreage over that of the previous year, being 700 in Antigua and 90 acres in Barbuda—or 790 acres throughout the Presidency. About nine-tenths of the area planted in cotton in Barbuda was under Government supervision. The total quantity gathered was 93,500 lb.

The returns were fair, being approximately 118 lb. of lint per acre, as compared with 80 lb. and 103 lb. per acre in the two previous years.

Early in 1919 an Ordinance was passed empowering the Government to destroy trees and plants acting as hosts for cotton stainers. Under the provisions of this Ordinance, the Agricultural Department has succeeded, by the destruction of wild cotton plants, mahoe, and silk cotton trees, in practically freeing the Five Islands and St. John's Districts from these pests.

Owing to the late arrival of the annual supply of seed, a considerable decrease in the area planted in onions took place, the number of crates shipped being only 274, as compared with 577 in 1918 and 1,100 in 1917.

The quantity of corn (maize) grown in Antigua during the year, as in the previous year, was very considerable, which was due to the increased price obtainable for the grain and also to the very high cost of imported corn. Most of the maize grown on estates is planted on the banks of cane-fields as a catch crop. The cob is utilized, mixed with molasses, beans, or peas, as a nutritive feed for horses and cattle. The Government Granary, which in the previous year had proved extremely serviceable, having kiln-dried 74,005 lb. of shelled corn and manufactured 6,380 lb. cornmeal, did not operate, as large consignments of corn and cornmeal were arriving and there was practically a glut in the market.

The work of the Cotton and Onion Growers' Associations continued to be of great value to small owners, both from an educational as from an industrial point of view, for these Associations place within the ready reach of the peasants seeds of the best type available and guarantee an equitable price for their produce.

The former Association purchased 50,652 lb. of seed cotton from the peasants at prices varying from 6½d. to 8d. per lb., and paid a further bonus of 1½d. per lb.

The Sawcolts Land Settlement Scheme initiated in 1917 has proved a pronounced success. The estate is situated in the southern part of the island, at a distance of about 7 miles from St. John's. Since the inception of the scheme, about 55 persons have taken up, approximately, 70 acres, the value of which is £516. Practically the whole of the cultivable land has been taken up. The plots, which are under the general supervision of the Agricultural Department, are, on the whole, kept clean and tidy, and are planted in useful crops, chiefly sugar-canes and provisions, which are sold locally. The settlement also forms a convenient nucleus for labour for the Bendals Central Factory, which it adjoins.

The private land settlement at Tomlinson's estate projected by the Antigua Sugar Factory is meeting with considerable success. The settlement area covers about 80 acres, which is being allotted out at £10 to £12 per acre. The allottees pay a proportionate part of the purchase money each year for 10 years, after which period of time, when the whole payment has been made, a title is issued to the allottee.

It has been suggested that common lands should be provided for the peasants to keep their cattle on. This is an important suggestion, as it will ensure a supply of milk and so reduce infantile mortality, and will be a source of manure to maintain the fertility of the allotments.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.

The revenue for 1919-20 was £80,007, giving an increase over that for the previous year of £15,516, and an excess over the estimated revenue of £18,237. Increase and excess were caused by an increase in taxation passed subsequent to the framing of the Estimates and to the success of the Government Cotton Farm.

The increase on taxation was effected by replacing the fixed rate of export duty on sugar, syrup, molasses and cotton, by an export duty on a sliding scale based on price, and by imposing a similar sliding scale export duty on coconuts.

The expenditure for 1919-20 amounted to £73,501, being an increase over that for 1918-19 of £9,421, and an excess over the estimated expenditure of £14,026.

The Surplus Funds rose from £11,299 on March 31st, 1919, to £17,813 on March 31st, 1920. The debt fell during the same period from £38,637 to £33,002.

The value of imports rose during the calendar year 1919 from £306,309 to £364,090, and of exports from £344,633 to £425,450.

Agricultural conditions were satisfactory during 1919, the average rainfall for 29 stations being 62·84 in. Good prices were obtained for the staple products, sugar and cotton.

The total export of sugar, equating syrup to Muscovado, amounted to 11,015 tons in 1919, an increase of 1,910 tons on that for the previous year, but a great decrease on the exports for 1916 and 1917.

The St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory produced 8,805 tons of crystals, an increase of 1,585 tons on 1918. Owing to the fact that the factory sold its output in advance, the high prices which ruled at the end of the year brought no benefit to the planters concerned or to the revenue.

The area planted in Sea Island cotton throughout the Presidency was about 5,000 acres. The season was favourable except in Nevis. The export amounts to 508,780 lb. of lint, a decrease on that for 1918 of 70,789 lb. The prices obtained were high.

A Government Cotton Farm was established early in 1919, extending over some 70 acres of Government land. From the 42 acres which were planted with cotton during the year, 16,986 lb. of lint were reaped and exported. The primary object of the farm, the supply of pedigree seed to cotton growers, was fully realised, 36,000 lb. of seed being obtained and made available to purchasers.

The cultivation of coconuts in Nevis progressed, with good prospects. The local sale of nuts, which formed an important article of diet during the scarcity of home-grown foodstuffs, greatly increased.

The cultivation of foodstuffs was maintained, and met local demands until interfered with by drought.

The total consumption of rum, imported and locally distilled, amounted to 26,246 proof gallons, an increase of 2,453 gallons on the figure for 1918.

No epidemic amongst either men or animals and no hurricane or other disaster occurred during the year. Labour conditions remained fairly satisfactory. There were considerable increases in wages.

A first step towards reduction of infantile mortality was taken by the establishment of a Maternity Ward, which soon became popular amongst the class for which it was intended.

DOMINICA.

The financial year 1919-1920 opened with a deficit of £3,108 and closed with a surplus of £894, a result due largely to the recuperative powers of the Presidency and to the expansion in trade which marked the latter part of the year. The total revenue for the year was £56,097, an increase of £8,000 in excess of the estimate, and of nearly £9,000 in excess of the revenue for the year 1918-1919.

Import duties from other than alcoholic liquors showed an increase of £1,835 on the estimates, while the revenue from export duties exceeded the amount estimated by £833.

The total import and export duties showed an increase of £5,314 on the revenue of the preceding year.

The actual expenditure for the year amounted to £52,095, or £4,262 in excess of the estimate—due principally to enhanced cost of material and stores and to the bonuses and increases of salary granted during the year to public officers.

The most noticeable feature in the export trade of the Presidency during the year was, perhaps, the enormous increase in the export of coconuts from 89,676 coconuts value £467 in 1918 to 492,426 coconuts value £4,103 in 1919. The large increase in the export of cacao is also significant. The figures for 1918 show an export of 4,239 cwt., value £14,735, while the figures for 1919 show an export of 7,387 cwt., value £27,293. The increased export of cacao is, however, partly due to the cessation of smuggling with the neighbouring French Colonies owing to the depreciation of the franc and to the greatly increased prices realized in the home markets. The shipments of cacao for the last five years are as follows :—

		Quantity.		Value.
1915 ..	..	10,810 cwt.	..	£39,301
1916 ..	..	8,707 „	..	17,151
1917 ..	..	3,169 „	..	8,842
1918 ..	..	4,239 „	..	14,735
1919 ..	..	7,387 „	..	37,293

The lime crop for 1919, calculated in barrels of a capacity of 4.55 cubic feet, amounted to 401,923 barrels of fruit, or 83,000 barrels over the output of 1918. As, however, the crop of the latter year was 71,000 barrels of fruit below the average crops of the previous five years, 1913-1917, production during 1919 is therefore 12,000 barrels in excess of the average annual output of crop for several years prior to 1918.

The lime crop for the past five years calculated in barrels of fruit, is recorded below :—

1915 ..	..	..	..	..	390,000
1916 ..	..	..	..	..	384,000
1917 ..	..	..	..	..	396,000
1918 ..	..	..	..	..	318,000
1919 ..	..	..	..	..	402,000

The following table calculated on the usual basis, shows the disposal of the crop under the various heads :—

Product.	Barrels of fruit.	Approximate percentage of total crop.
Concentrated Juice	250,077 ..	62
Raw Juice ..	39,774 ..	10
Fresh Limes ..	21,361 ..	5
Citrate of Lime ..	90,068 ..	22

The following statement gives the comparative quantities of the export of the different kinds of lime products in 1917, 1918, 1919 :—

Products.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Concentrated Lime Juice .. gallons	149,775	148,939	166,718
Raw Juice gallons	778,133	575,985	298,312
Citrate of Lime cwt.	1,960	800	6,772
Green Limes barrels	41,243	7,670	21,361
Essential Oil of Limes .. lb.	45,141	25,096	67,787
Otto of Limes lb.	10,004	13,676	16,964

The total value of lime products exported during 1919 was £196,401.

During the year some 125 men of the British West Indies Regiment returned to their homes here. The Government made them offers of land, which, however, they were unwilling to accept. A large number of them have since left the Island for the United States of America or Cuba, and the rest have been gradually absorbed into civil life.

In October occurred the lamented death of Mr. A. W. Mahaffy, O.B.E., Administrator of the Presidency. The Honourable Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., assumed the Administration and acted from October 1919, till April 30th, 1920, when Mr. R. Walter, C.M.G., arrived and assumed the government of the Presidency.

MONTSERRAT.

The revenue for the year was £19,336, an increase of £1,665 on that of 1918-19 (£17,671); the expenditure was £16,014, an increase of £3,121 on that of 1918-19 (£12,893). Both revenue and expenditure were thus nominally the highest on record; this, however, being largely due to the real decrease in the value of the monetary unit.

The excess of revenue, £19,336, over expenditure, £16,014, was £3,322. This saving was chiefly due to the postponement of various necessary public works on account of local and general conditions.

The surplus, or excess of assets over liabilities, at the end of 1919-20 (March 31st, 1920) was £21,948, as against £18,626 at the end of the previous year.

The trade returns for the calendar year 1919 amounted to £161,203, the value of imports being £59,145 and of exports £102,058, as against £70,834 and £87,012 respectively in 1918.

The direction of trade was as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
United Kingdom ..	£9,245 ..	£85,771
British North America..	11,233 ..	2,575
Foreign Countries ..	20,354 ..	7,137
Inter-Presidential ..	18,313 ..	6,575
	<hr/> £59,145 ..	<hr/> £102,058

The very marked increase in the value of exports is to be attributed to a good cotton crop and the high price of cotton. On this account the exports to the United Kingdom in 1919 were almost equal to the total exports of the previous year.

The shipment of cotton lint was 1,222 bales, giving a net weight 431,583 lb., of an estimated total value of £68,952, an increase of 58,853 lb. as compared with 1918 (372,730 lb.); 533 tons of cotton seed, of the estimated value of £5,389, were also exported.

The cotton crop yield for the last four seasons has been:—

1916-17	313,322 lb.
1917-18	409,855 ..
1918-19	438,222 ..
1919-20	538,334 ..

The other agricultural industries remained, in comparison, unimportant, as it is probable they will continue to do as long as cotton can be cultivated and sold at the present very remunerative prices. The export of raw lime juice was 96,851 gallons, of an estimated value of £15,587; concentrated lime juice, citrate of lime, and fresh limes were also exported to a total estimated value of £1,887. Only 58 tons, value £844, of muscovado sugar were exported. There is a small but growing bay oil industry, and the export of papaine was 1,970 lb., value £1,663.

The total tonnage of shipping entered and cleared in 1919-20 was 302,629 tons—steamers 289,116 tons and sailing vessels 13,513 tons, the former being chiefly due to the fortnightly calls in either direction of the R.M.S.P. Company's vessels running between Canada and British Guiana. Direct passenger communication with the United Kingdom has practically ceased since the War.

The estimated population of the Presidency in 1919 was 11,264. The normal increase in the population is more than counter-balanced by the constant stream of emigration to the United States, Canada, Cuba and St. Domingo.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Revenue.

The revenue for 1919-20, including £160 derived from the sale of Crown Lands and £100 for the sale of the Government sloop, "Lady Constance," amounted to £14,880, as compared with £5,070 in the preceding year. The increase of £9,810 was due to the sudden rise in the price of cotton lint and to the collecting of outstanding taxes and increased supervision on behalf of the Treasury. The total revenue for the three years 1917-18 to 1919-20 is shown in the subjoined table:—

1917-18	..	..	..	..	£6,147
1918-19	..	..	..	..	5,070
1919-20	..	..	..	..	14,880

The revenue exceeded the expenditure by £6,730. The total expenditure for the years 1917-18 to 1919-20 was as follows:—

1917-18	..	..	..	..	£5,774
1918-19	..	..	..	..	6,227
1919-20	..	..	..	..	8,149

The excess of assets over liabilities at the end of the financial year amounted to £6,184, of which £4,500 were held by the Crown Agents at 6 per cent. and £68 deposited in the Danish Bank at St. Thomas, the balance being held at the Treasury and to the Presidency's credit in other Islands.

The total values of the imports of the three years 1917-18 to 1919-20 are as follows:—

1917-18	..	..	..	..	£13,988
1918-19	..	..	..	..	17,160
1919-20	..	..	..	..	19,709

The statistics of the imports of alcoholic liquors into the Presidency shows a marked increase in quantity and value due to the fact of the Virgin Islands of the U.S.A. having become dry. If the present tendency continues a further increase is anticipated for the coming year.

The following table shows the value of the exports of the Presidency for the three years:—

1917-18	..	..	..	..	£8,817
1918-19	..	..	..	..	10,597
1919-20	..	..	..	..	13,362

Increase is largely due to better markets and increased demand.

Sailing vessels of an average tonnage of 13,059 entered and cleared, as compared with sailing vessels 11,248 tons the year before.

Government Experimental Station.

The Government Cotton Ginnery had a most successful year and was a marked benefit to the revenue of the Presidency owing

to the very high prices ruling for lint towards the end of the year. The high price paid for sugar, onions, and in fact all ground provisions enabled the Experiment Station to show substantial financial returns.

A policy of rigid economy was necessary owing to a deficiency in the revenue. The productivity of the peasants was enhanced owing to the high ruling prices of all agricultural products. The ensuing year opens with every prospect of a successful financial year.

T. R. ST.-JOHNSTON.

(Colonial Secretary, Leeward Islands)

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Wei-hai-wei	"
1041	Nyasaland	1918-1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	"
1044	Bermuda	"
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	"
1056	Swaziland	1919-1920
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

A net sum of £43,669 remained to be met from surplus balances which, taking surplus revenues into account, were reduced by £30,732 from the amount of £100,406 at which they stood at the beginning of the year.

Public Debt.

The actual loans outstanding on the 31st March, 1920, were the following :—

	£	s.	d.
(a) Loan for Redemption of Subsidy Lands	172,190	1	3
(b) East African Protectorates Loan 1914 (on account)	39,700	7	8
	<u>£211,890</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>

The total amount of (a) was £180,800, raised for the purpose of redeeming lands granted in connection with the construction of the Shire Highlands Railway. Annual instalments paid to the sinking fund have reduced the total to £172,190.

A second instalment of the loan under (b) above, amounting to £28,000, was received in March, 1920, bringing the amount received to £40,000 out of a sanctioned total of £803,000. The following table shows the actual expenditure down to the 31st March, 1920 :—

	Roads.			Railway Survey.			Interest.	Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.
To 31st March, 1919	6,108	6	11	7,343	1	4	1,440	14,891	8	3
In 1919/20	—			2	13	3	—	2	13	3
	<u>6,108</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>7,345</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1,440</u>	<u>14,894</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>

The balance will, it is hoped, shortly be utilised for the construction of the much-needed railway extension to Lake Nyasa.

War Expenditure.

During the year under review a net sum of £129,021 was paid out under this head, bringing the total disbursements to £2,963,610 2s. 11d. An amount of £34,389 17s. 1d. still remained to be accounted for out of the amount advanced by the War Office in connection with the local campaign.

Assets and Liabilities.

The close of the year 1919-20 showed that the balance of assets over liabilities had been reduced from £100,406 to £69,674, a decrease of £30,732 during the year.

Currency and Banking.

British gold, silver and bronze coin constitute the currency of the Nyasaland Protectorate. There is no legal circulation of notes; but the local banks accommodate their customers with South African notes when they leave the Protectorate. The export of gold and silver coin is prohibited.

No. 1075:

NYASALAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1919-1920.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

Excluding Loan Accounts the revenue for the year, including £416 from sales of land, amounted to £186,927, which is only £718 below that of the previous financial year, when the revenue of the Protectorate reached its highest recorded figures.

Revenue for the past five years :—

1915/16	..	..	..	£ 137,911		
1916/17	..	..	..	148,284	..	Inc. 7.5 per cent.
1917/18	..	..	..	144,239	..	Dec. 2.7 "
1918/19	..	..	..	187,645	..	Inc. 30.1 "
1919/20	..	..	..	186,926	..	Dec. 38 "

Revenue increase in past four years, 35.5 per cent.

The revenue is in excess of the estimates under most of the heads.

The noteworthy increase of £14,357 under "Customs Duties" is partly attributable to enhanced prices and partly to the continued impetus to trade caused by the steady influx of settlers, which was maintained throughout the period under review.

Expenditure.

Excluding loan expenditure, the total expenditure for the year was £217,659, which was £43,669 in excess of the estimate.

Expenditure for the past five years :—

1915/16	..	..	..	£ 125,666	..	
1916/17	..	..	..	128,272	..	Inc. 2.0 per cent.
1917/18	..	..	..	143,639	..	" 12.0 "
1918/19	..	..	..	150,198	..	" 4.3 "
1919/20	..	..	..	217,659	..	" 44.9 "

Increase in expenditure in four years, 73.2 per cent.

The principal causes of this large increase in expenditure are the necessity for increases in salaries and wages due to the rise in the cost of living and the enhanced prices of raw material.

* A map of the Protectorate will be found in the Report for 1912-13. No. 172 [Cd. 7050-13].

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British gold, silver and bronze coin constitute the currency of the Nyasaland Protectorate. There is no legal circulation of notes; but the local banks accommodate their customers with South African notes when they leave the Protectorate. The export of gold and silver coin is prohibited.

Two Banks operate in the Protectorate, the Standard Bank of South Africa and the National Bank of South Africa. There are branches of these banks at Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Fort Johnston. Branches are in contemplation at Dedza and Port Herald.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The adverse position of the Post Office Savings Bank has become accentuated during the year. In June, 1918, the total investments on behalf of the Bank stood at £16,580. Since that date withdrawals have exceeded deposits, so that on the 31st March, 1920, the balance of deposits amounted to £8,826 15s. 11d. The difference of £7,753 4s. 1d. between investments and deposits has been advanced from the surplus balances of the Protectorate to avoid loss by realising investments at current prices.

In the first instance the reduction of deposits was caused by demobilised South African soldiers withdrawing their savings when they returned to the Union. Subsequently local European depositors withdrew money to take advantage of the higher rates of interest offered by the Banking Corporations, and native depositors have found it difficult to maintain or increase their savings owing to the high prices of clothing and other necessities.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

Trade.

The abnormal figures of the year 1918/19 were not fully maintained during the year under review. £65,315 was collected under the heads of Customs and Port and Harbour Dues, etc., as compared with £74,572 in the previous year, and £39,253 in 1917/18. In trade imports there was a decrease in value of 12 per cent. and in exports a decrease in weight of 28 per cent. on the figures of the preceding year. The results for the year are nevertheless satisfactory.

*As affecting the general trade conditions of the Protectorate the following factors during the year are worthy of mention:—

- (1) The departure of the last of the military personnel with the exception of members of the local forces.
- (2) The military salvage sales which made available for private use large numbers of motor vehicles of various types.
- (3) The introduction of the Imperial preferential tariff on tea, coffee and tobacco.
- (4) Exchange difficulties which restricted trade with India and elsewhere.
- (5) The difficulty experienced in obtaining adequate supplies of Manchester soft goods for native trade, and the high prices obtaining for these articles.

- (6) The large increase in the European population owing to the demand for land during the tobacco boom.

Imports.

The imports may be sub-divided under four comprehensive sub-heads, as follows :—

	1918/19	1919/20
1. Food, drink, and tobacco	£85,557	£79,846
2. Raw materials	6,004	29,342
3. Manufactured articles	486,028	377,564
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	71,390	83,138
	<u>£648,979</u>	<u>569,890</u>

The most important falling off in imports is under the sub-head "Cotton manufactures of all kinds" for the reasons explained above, although Nyasaland is better off as regards these commodities than some of the surrounding territories.

The increase of £13,000 in preserved fruits, meats, and fish must rather be taken as due to replenishing stocks which were bought up by the Military, than as indicating that Nyasaland is unable to meet her own requirements as regards fresh meat and fruits. An interesting item is the increase of £23,000 in the value of non-edible oils imported to meet the increasing demands for mechanical transport.

An indication of the opening up of the country which is confidently expected during the next few years is shown by the increased values of the imports of Iron and Steel (£13,488), Agricultural Machinery and Implements (£21,170), and other Machinery (£8,392).

As usual, the principal country of origin of Nyasaland imports is the United Kingdom. Including goods in transit the main divisions are :—

From the United Kingdom	£370,704
From British Possessions	103,280
From Foreign Countries	132,640
	<u>£606,624</u>

South Africa supplied £70,102 of the total under "British Possessions."

Exports.

The total exports during the year may conveniently be classified in the same way as the imports.

	1918/19	1919/20
1. Food, drink, and tobacco	£315,683	£308,901
2. Raw materials	172,839	81,181
3. Manufactured articles	—	—
4. Miscellaneous and unclassified	16,218	39,004
	<u>£504,740</u>	<u>£429,086</u>

It appears that the cessation of hostilities caused a reduction in the demand for capsicums and chillies which were used in the

manufacture of "tear" shells. Coffee is going out of cultivation owing to the better attractions of more lucrative crops; tobacco continues at its high level in recent years; tea shows an increase that is not due to a larger acreage being under cultivation, but to old gardens gradually coming into improved bearing; cotton shows a heavy fall due to the greater popularity of tobacco, adverse climatic conditions in some localities, and reduced native cultivation caused by influenza and threatened famine. As regards fibre the increase should prove greater in future as some of the large estates which have been planted begin to come into production. Better prices offered for strophanthus have drawn some attention to this commodity. Rubber has increased in quantity, but the acreage is declining, and unless rubber commands higher values in the next few years, the industry may be expected to die out.

Including Government exports, the countries of destination were:—

United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	£391,102
British Possessions	..	..	..	..	18,090
Foreign Countries	..	..	..	..	21,031
					<hr/> £430,223

Transit Trade.

The improvement in the transit trade of the Protectorate was fully maintained during the year. There was an increase in value over the 1918/19 figures of £7,927 or 27 per cent. "to surrounding territories," and £27,500, or 1·33 per cent. "from surrounding territories." Northern Rhodesia, Portuguese East Africa and Tanganyika Territory are the countries that participate in this transit trade.

Traffic.

During the year 6,029 tons of cargo passed inwards at Port Herald, and 6,283 tons passed out. The registered shipping remains about the same, viz.:—

Under British Flag :	10 steamers and 83 barges on the Zambezi.
	6 steamers and 29 barges on Lake Nyasa.
Under Foreign Flags :	15 steamers on the Zambezi.

III.—AGRICULTURE.

The total area under European cultivation during 1919/20 was 47,781 acres, which shows a reduction of 5,056 acres on the previous year. This reduction is chiefly due to the fact that many planters who served with the local forces took advantage of the leave in the United Kingdom granted by the military authorities. Towards the end of 1919 there was a great influx of new settlers who came either independently or under the auspices of the British Central Africa Company, which inaugurated a private settlement scheme for officers on the large tracts of land owned by the company. At the end of the year the planting

community had certainly reached more than double its pre-war strength.

The present is a very critical time in the agricultural development of the country. Land has increased in value in the districts nearest the railway and large towns from about 25s. an acre in 1914 to £3 in 1919. Many of the oldest settlers have taken advantage of these high prices, have sold their estates, and retired from the country.

Tobacco.

The area under tobacco during the year was 9,817 acres, as compared with 6,027 acres in the previous year; the yield increased from 23,164 cwt. to 35,691 cwt. The average crop, 407 lb. an acre, was satisfactory. It is to be regretted that the rising prices led to large quantities of very low grade tobacco being shipped which could not fail to affect the reputation of Nyasaland tobacco. Greater attention to grading and quality of tobacco shipped is needed.

Prices reached a record height during the year, and tobacco sold freely on the local market at from 1s. to 1s. 8d. per pound, as compared with the pre-war price of 4d. The preferential tariff in the United Kingdom has also had a considerable effect in encouraging the development of the tobacco industry, and there appears to be no reason why, if the preference is maintained, there should not be a much greater development in future.

Cotton.

The first recorded export of cotton from the Protectorate was in 1902, when 692 lb. were exported. Eight years later the annual export was 1,736,000 lb., and from 1911 to 1916 there was a steady expansion in the industry. The climatic conditions of 1913 and 1914, however, caused a temporary set-back. The crop in 1916 reached the highest recorded figure of 3,462,000 lb. During the War, the necessity for producing native foodstuffs for the local forces, combined with the unprecedentedly high prices obtainable for tobacco, caused many planters to abandon the cotton industry. In two years the acreage fell from 28,000 acres to 12,000. Signs are not wanting, however, that renewed interest is being taken in cotton production, and it may confidently be hoped that the next few years will see a revival in this industry. During the year under review the acreage under cotton again showed a fall, from 18,141 acres to 12,658 acres, and the yield declined from 1,911 to 1,467 bales of 400 lb. each.

The native cotton crop has received a severe check through war conditions; but it may be expected that the system of control of the native cotton markets by Government will make this industry more attractive to the natives.

Tea.

The tea industry continued to make some headway during the year 1919. The acreage increased from 4,433 acres to 4,840,

and the yield from 5,667 cwt. to 5,984 cwt. Unfortunately, the demand, which was good at the beginning of the year, fell away seriously towards the end of 1919, and in some instances the prices obtained did not cover the expenses of production. It is to be hoped that prices will recover so as to maintain interest in the cultivation of this product.

During the year the exports totalled 801,890 lb., an increase of 101,435 lb. over the previous year.

Other economic products of minor importance are referred to under "Trade and Shipping."

Experimental Farms.

Owing to the pressure of other duties and the continued shortage of staff no experimental work of any note was undertaken during the year.

Veterinary.

The Rinderpest Commission closed down in April, 1919. The position at the end of the year was quite satisfactory. To the south of the immune belt there lies a tract of country between Lakes Tanganyika and Nyasa which is completely cleared of cattle. In Nyasaland, to the south of this cattle free area, is a controlled area in which all the cattle are registered, records kept of births and deaths, and all movements of cattle prohibited except under permit.

No other cattle diseases have given any trouble during the year with the exception of Trypanosomiasis. There were outbreaks of this disease in various parts of the Shire Highlands. Indications are not wanting that Trypanosomiasis can be transmitted by blood-sucking flies other than the *Glossinae*. Gastro-enteritis caused a fairly large number of deaths among cattle during the period under review.

Forestry.

Owing to the high wages offered by planters, it was difficult to procure native labour for forestry work. Nevertheless, 20 acres of eucalyptus and 15 acres of cypress were planted at Zomba, and 13 acres of cypress on Mlanje Plateau. The aggregate area of the timber plantations stood at 846 acres at the close of the year. During 1919/20 some 43,850 lineal feet of Mlanje cypress was sawn for the use of the Public Works Department.

IV. —LANDS, INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

No new trades or industries were introduced during the year.

The Government Geologist continued his enquiries into the coal and other mineral deposits in the Protectorate and his

investigations should prove of great utility when the time comes to undertake the development of the mineral resources of Nyasaland. The profitable working of the coal deposits may, it is hoped, assist in no small measure in the solution of the fuel question which, with the increase of railway facilities, may become an urgent problem.

In no respect is the rapidly increasing development of Nyasaland so clearly shown, as in the abnormal demand for leases of Crown land during the year 1919/20, and the increase in the number of applications for yearly tenancy plots for purposes of native trade. The following comparative statement shows the numbers of leases and yearly tenancies granted during the past four years :—

	1916/17	1917/18	1918/19	..	1919/20
Leases	2	7	11	..	61
Yearly Tenancies	18	47	46	..	75

The acreages granted under lease during the year may be roughly divided as follows, so far as the intentions of the lessees have been clearly stated :—

(a) Cotton	12,792 acres
(b) Tobacco	6,530 "
(c) Dual Purpose (Cotton and Tobacco) ..	3,602 "
(d) General agriculture	1,385 "
	<hr/> 24,309 <hr/>

Owing to this sudden increase in the area of land leased the Survey Staff was unable to cope with the work of setting out the boundaries of the estates, and provision was made for the appointment of two extra surveyors.

V.—EDUCATION.

No Government schools exist in Nyasaland, nor has any school for European children as yet come into existence. An annual grant of £1,000 in aid of education is divided between the ten principal missionary societies working in the Protectorate.

On the 31st March, 1920, there were 2,030 schools established in the Protectorate, providing education for 49,308 girls and 68,330 boys. The average attendance was 29,477 girls and 41,441 boys. The majority of these schools are in charge of native teachers, and the amount of European supervision is less than could be desired. The education imparted is of a very elementary character, except at the headquarters of the more important Missions. At these centres natives receive useful instruction in carpentry, printing, and other trades. Many artisans also receive their training in the various Government Departments.

VI.—POPULATION.

On 31st March, 1920, the estimated European population of the Protectorate, including Government officials, was 729 males and 286 females, giving a total of 1,015 as compared with 492 males and 232 females, totalling 724 in the previous year.

The Asiatic population increased by 108 to 515 during the year.

The native population, which is estimated on the basis of the number of huts, was put down at 545,000 males and 658,000 females, or a total of 1,203,000.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The shortage of medical staff rendered it impossible to carry out any special investigations in connection with communicable diseases, except that investigations were continued in the North Nyasa District in the matter of Plague. The only recorded cases occurred in August. As statistics have shown that infection with this disease reaches its height in the rainy season, it is a matter for congratulation that no cases at all occurred from August, 1919, to the end of March, 1920, i.e., throughout a whole wet season. From April to December the preventive measures were continually enforced, and during that period a total of 1,247,068 rats were killed.

One hundred and seventy European officials received medical treatment, 20 were invalided, but there were no deaths.

A total of 313 non-official Europeans came under treatment, of whom seven died.

VIII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There are no Government railways in Nyasaland. The Shire Highlands Railway Limited owns and works a railway from Port Herald, the port of entry into the Protectorate, to Blantyre, the commercial centre, a distance of 113½ miles. From Port Herald the Central Africa Railway runs through Portuguese territory to Chindio on the Zambezi River, a distance of 60½ miles. The construction of the projected railway from Luchenza on the Shire Highlands Railway to Lake Nyasa has not yet been proceeded with, although the route has been surveyed.

Mechanical Transport.

The Government fleet of motor vehicles consisted during the year of an Albion lorry, three Packard lorries, three Reo lorries, three Hup cars. Many privately owned lorries and cars are now in use in the Protectorate, and a few years from now should see

mechanical transport largely displacing human portorage, and thus releasing native labour for the agricultural development of the country.

IX.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

There is nothing calling for special comment under this head during the year under review. The natives remained peaceful and loyal; but there was some disinclination to work, which was one of the legacies of the local campaign.

Larceny, housebreaking, and burglary by natives has been of more frequent occurrence than in previous years.

The scarcity and dearness of native cloth continued to be a cause of dissatisfaction to the natives, and was one of the contributing causes to their disinclination to work.

There was no noticeable shortage of foodstuffs during the year, and no special measures had to be adopted in this respect.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works, exclusive of military expenditure, was £23,027 as against £15,839 in the preceding year, and £14,027 in 1917/18. The extra cost is mainly due to increased salaries, enhanced price of materials, and the necessity of rebuilding the Government Offices which were destroyed by fire early in 1919.

XI.—POSTAL.

The postal revenue for the year 1919/20 amounted to £7,300 5s. 2d., and the expenditure to £9,948 18s. 6d. The figures for the preceding year were £9,193 9s. 3d. and £7,166 17s. 3d. respectively. Expenditure thus exceeded revenue by £2,648 13s. 4d. The loss on the year is attributable to war bonuses to Europeans and increased pay of the native staff, together with the cost of replacing telephone material destroyed in the fire of February, 1919. Revenue suffered from the rescinding of the war tax on postage.

The telegraph system in the Protectorate is owned and worked by the African Transcontinental Telegraph Company. The total length of line open for public service is 869 miles.

The Government owns a telephone system of 23 miles in Zomba, and during the year 14,988 calls were registered.

XII.—GENERAL.

The year 1919/20 may be regarded as confirming the belief that the prosperity which awaited the future progress of this Protectorate at the conclusion of hostilities is likely to be

maintained. It is now apparent that the War has had no permanent ill effect on the prospects of the country ; and when once the native character reverts to its normal condition, and the general conditions of trade recover from their present stagnant state, it is confidently to be expected that Nyasaland will take an ever increasingly important place in the Empire.

The future prospects of the Protectorate are encouraging. Mechanical transport is being introduced and utilised on a much larger scale than heretofore contemplated. Increasing numbers of settlers are arriving and will be of great help in opening up the country. Plans for new roads and railways are being considered on a scale which if carried out will render Nyasaland an indispensable means of communication between the interior of Africa and ports of shipment to the commercial centres of Europe.

It may confidently be expected that, when transport difficulties have been overcome, the potential trade with Tanganyika Territory will be fully developed. When the railway is extended to Lake Nyasa there will be a much greater scope for enterprise. On the ranges of the Livingstonia Mountains are large areas suitable for wheat ; on the lower ranges suitable pasturage for cattle. Cotton grows wild in some districts, and its cultivation on a commercial basis will become possible when transport facilities are available. Sisal hemp should develop into an important industry. Although Nyasaland in pre-war days had but little commercial intercourse with its neighbour on the north, the opening up of communications between Lake Nyasa and Beira will almost certainly lead to a great expansion of trade between the two Protectorates.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1040	Weihaiwei	1919
1041	Nyasaland	1918-1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	"
1044	Bermuda	"
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920

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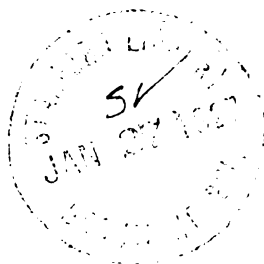
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1076.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 1017.)



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No. 1076.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES FOR THE YEAR 1919.*

HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL NOTE.

The early history of the Falkland Islands, as they are now known, is shrouded in uncertainty. It has been said that one Americus Vesputius as early as 1502 sighted the islands and that in 1519 Magellan on his trip round the world also sighted the islands, but there is only evidence of a fragmentary nature to support these statements. Similarly the existence of a chart dated 1527 shewing islands, in or about the latitude of the Falkland Islands, called Ascension Islands, is not by any means conclusive evidence that the actual islands were known at that time. However, in 1592 the islands were definitely located by Captain John Davis of the "Desire," and in 1594 they were visited by Sir Richard Hawkins who, in compliment to his Sovereign, named them "Maiden Land."

The name "Falkland" was first used in 1690 when the islands were visited by Captain Strong of the "Welfare," and is in compliment to the then Treasurer of the Navy. Various visits were made to the islands thereafter and a French name was conferred upon them, "Les Isles Malouines," which name remains to-day in the "Islas Malvinas" of the Spanish American peoples. No attempt at colonisation of the country was made, however, until 1764, when an expedition under de Bougainville landed at Port Royal, afterwards and to this day known as Port Louis, after the French Monarch, in Berkeley Sound, East Falkland, but in 1766 the French interests in the Colony were purchased by Spain. In the following year Commodore John Byron landed on the West Falkland and endeavoured to form a garrison there. The British were, however, replaced by the Spaniards in 1770, but returned in 1771, and ceased to occupy the Colony for the time being in 1774. No formal occupation of the country seems to have taken place until 1820, when the Republic of Buenos Aires established a temporary settlement in the islands, the settlement being broken up in 1831 by the United States of America. In 1833 the Colony was definitely taken possession of by the British and was constituted a British Colony, with headquarters at Port Louis. From this date until 1842 the islands were under the control of the naval officers in charge of the work of surveying the waters in this vicinity. In 1842 a civil administration was formed, the capital remaining at Port Louis until 1844, when it was removed to the south shore of the inner harbour of Port William, and the chief settlement of the islands there sprang up under the name of

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 872 (Cd. 7622-63).

Stanley. Since that time the Colony has been administered by a Governor (responsible to the Secretary of State for the Colonies) assisted by an Executive Council. Except in the growth of the town of Stanley by the erection of houses and other buildings it would seem, from a study of writers on the islands during the early years of its civil administration, that the external appearance and conditions of the Colony have altered but little. Larger or smaller settlements have from time to time sprung up throughout the islands, forming headquarters whence the various freeholders and leaseholders prosecute the sheep-farming industry of the Colony, but a perusal of Captain Snow's book, describing the islands and the life of the settlers, leaves one with a curious sense of reality and a feeling that the writer might have been describing the place as it existed five years ago rather than seventy.

The Falkland Islands, consisting of the East Falkland having an area of 3,000 square miles, the West Falkland, about 2,300 square miles, and about 100 small islands with a total area of rather over 1,000 square miles, lie in the South Atlantic Ocean between lat. S. 51 and 53 and between long. W. 57 and 62. Thus they are about 480 miles to the north-east of Cape Horn, and 1,000 miles due south of Monte Video.

The Dependencies of the Falkland Islands are designated as follows in Letters Patent given under the Great Seal on the 28th March, 1917 :—" All islands and territories whatsoever between the 20th degree of West longitude and the 50th degree of West longitude which are situated south of the 50th parallel of South latitude, and all islands and territories whatsoever between the 50th degree of West longitude and the 80th degree of West Longitude which are situated south of the 58th parallel of South latitude." Thus, such islands and territories include South Georgia, South Shetland Islands, South Orkney Islands, South Sandwich Islands, Graham's Land, and the territory extending southwards therefrom to the Pole.

The Falkland Islands in general physical appearance consist of bleak rolling moorland interspersed with outbreaks of grey rock and stone runs. They bear a marked resemblance to some parts of the north-west coast of Scotland and to the Shetland Islands, being, if anything, more bleak and barren than the latter. In some parts of the coast high rock cliffs may be seen, but the country can hardly be described as mountainous, the highest peak, Mount Adam, on the West Falkland, rising to only 2,315 feet above sea level. Nevertheless, the contour of the country is nowhere flat; long ridges of moorland run from east to west on the East Falkland, and from north to south on the West Falkland, and an inexperienced traveller in the islands will readily be confused at the apparently exact similarity of the ridges over or along which he passes on his journey.

There being no roads outside the limits of Stanley, and the surface soil consisting mainly of soft peat, travelling is difficult and is done entirely on horseback, while produce sent to Stanley for export is all waterborne.

The face of the country is covered, in the main, with a coarse yellowish grass, capable of feeding cattle or of maintaining sheep of the "greasy Cross-bred" variety. Although an attempt was made in the early days of the Colony to devote the land to cattle-breeding, sheep-farming is now, and has been for many years, the sole industry of the Falkland Islands. Practically the whole country has now been alienated for this purpose, being split up into a number of farms the freeholds of which have been, or are in process of being, purchased from the Crown. Each of such farms, or sections of land, has its headquarters, consisting of the Manager's house, cook-house, wool-sheds, pens, &c., at a settlement situated on the coast at a point convenient for the shipment of produce to Stanley. At other suitable points about the farm may be found small houses occupied by the shepherds of the various sections.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The Revenue of the Colony and its Dependencies for the year amounted to £48,496—an increase of £11,024 over the Revenue of the previous year, while the expenditure exceeded that of 1918, by £640 only.

The excess of Actual Revenue over the Actual Expenditure of the year was £21,586, which amount was added to the Surplus Balance of the Colony.

The Surplus Balance at the 31st December, 1919, amounted to £58,690.

The following is a comparative statement of the Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure for the five years from 1915 to 1919 inclusive :—

			Revenue			Expenditure		
			£			£		
1915	..	..	34,347	..	..	..	33,001	
1916	..	..	39,106	..	..	..	24,944	
1917	..	..	36,491	..	..	..	29,386	
1918	..	..	37,472	..	..	..	26,270	
1919	..	..	48,496	..	..	..	26,910	

Of the increase of £11,024 in the Revenue of 1919 over that of 1918, 50 per cent. was due to the proceeds of the Land Tax which was imposed in substitution for the duty on the produce of the Colony.

There is no import duty except on wines, spirits and tobacco ; and no export duty whatever on the produce of the Colony, the Land Tax having been substituted therefor : (vide the Land Tax Ordinance, 1918), while the Export Duty on Whale and Seal Products from the Dependencies was raised as from the 1st October, 1919, to 1s. 6d per barrel of 40 gallons of oil : the duty on Guano of all kinds remaining at 1½d. per every 100 lb. or part thereof.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The surplus of Assets over Liabilities at the 31st December, 1919, amounted to £212,973, of which £152,002 was represented by the Land Sales Fund.

SAVINGS BANK.

There are no Banking facilities in the Colony with the exception of those offered by the Government Savings Bank, which was instituted under the provisions of the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1888. The financial year of the Savings Bank is from the 1st October to the 30th of the following September.

At the end of the financial year, there were 781 accounts open, with a total of £116,673 2s. 4d., or an average of £149 7s. 9d. per account, or £51 16s. 2d. per head of the population of the Colony.

CURRENCY.

The Currency Note Issue was increased during the year to £18,000, under the provisions of the Currency Order in Council, dated 7th March, 1899 ; the Coin Portion and the Investment Portion of the Note Guarantee Fund each amounting to £9,000 at the 31st December, while the Note Depreciation Fund amounted to £890 15s. 7d.

The Notes in circulation at the 31st December, 1919, amounted to a sum of £18,000, representing the following denominations :

£5 Notes,	1,505	..	..	..	..	..	£
£1	10,436	..	..	..	..	..	7,525
5s.	156	..	..	..	..	..	10,436
							39
							<hr/>
							£18,000
							<hr/>

No notes were withdrawn during the year

The market value of the Investments at the 31st December, 1919, was £1,091 lower than the price at which the stocks were bought, and the excess of the Currency Commissioners' Liabilities over Assets amounted to £201.

Current Coins.—The coins current in the Colony are the gold, silver and copper coins of the Realm.

PUBLIC DEBT.

There is no Public Debt.

LEGISLATION.

The Legislation during the year included :—

(1) An Ordinance whereby the Export Duty on Whale Oil was increased from 3½d. to 1s. 6d. per barrel of 40 gallons.

This additional duty will be earmarked for the Research Fund to be instituted in connection with the Dependencies.

(2) An Ordinance to prohibit former Enemy Aliens (*i.e.*, any person who is a citizen or subject of a State with which His Majesty was at any time during the year 1918 at war) landing in the Colony without a permit.

(3) An Ordinance to prohibit the landing in South Georgia and to deport therefrom any alien considered dangerous to the peace and good order of the Dependency.

(4) A Proclamation declaring the end of Active Service for the Falkland Islands Volunteer Corps and reversion to normal Peace Conditions.

EDUCATION.

There is no Higher or Secondary Education in the Colony. *The Government School, Stanley*, provides practically free elementary education, and is in charge of a duly Certificated Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress.

At 31st December, 1919 :—

The number of pupils on the roll was	116
The average attendance during the year was	106

Travelling Teachers.—The Government employed one travelling teacher to tour the West Falkland and impart instruction to the children in the "Camps."

The number of children under instruction during the past three years was as follows :—

1917		1918		1919
49	..	19	..	20

During the last month of the year, four additional Travelling Teachers arrived in the Colony, thus completing the establishment provided for.

St. Mary's Convent School (Roman Catholic).—This is an Elementary School with a roll of 101 pupils at the 31st December, 1919, and an average attendance during the year of 95.

Government exercises no supervision or authority over the work of this school, nor is any Government Grant made in support of it.

Falkland Islands Company's School and Camp Teachers.—The number of children receiving instruction at the Company's School at Darwin, and from the Camp Teachers, during the past three years was as follows :—

1917		1918		1919
66	..	63	..	69

The total number of children thus receiving education in the Colony during 1919 amounted to 306, as against 309 in the previous year.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Colony has been good, no epidemic of a serious nature having occurred during the year. The following extracts are taken from the Acting Colonial Surgeon's Report for the year :—

“ The outstanding features are :—

- (1) The rarity of malignant diseases.
- (2) The rarity of venereal diseases.
- (3) The rarity of all forms of tuberculosis.
- (4) Freedom from infectious diseases.
- (5) Prevalence of alimentary disorders.

“ A great number of children suffer from chronic tonsilitis, and during the first year laryngismus. The latter is attributed to a nervous erethism begotten by close confinement to ill-ventilated rooms.”

“ The question of inter-marriage is becoming more serious every year, and is slowly but surely imparting the stamp of degeneration on the race.”

"There is no such thing as systematic drainage. The only method of discharge is by open gutters which on warm days are very offensive Yet if we contemplate the influence of winds in the economy of human life, the township of Stanley will find them highly beneficial as they contribute greatly to preserving the health of the people by the dissipation of the noxious exhalations arising from sluggish drains and heaps of putrefying matter."

"Most of the houses are ill-ventilated and are not fitted up with accommodation for hot and cold bathing."

Sixteen patients were admitted during the year to the King Edward Memorial Hospital.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The following table gives particulars of the Vital Statistics of the Colony and the Dependency of South Georgia for the years 1918 and 1919:—

	1918.	1919.
Estimated Population at 31st December	3,252 (2,270 M.) (982 F.)	3,255 (2,271 M.) (984 F.)
Births	59 (37 M.) (22 F.)	66 (39 M.) (27 F.)
Deaths	20 (15 M.) (5 F.)	27 (21 M.) (6 F.)
Marriages	8	17
Birth rate per 1,000	18·13 ..	20·3 ..
Death	8·15 ..	8·2 ..
Population per square mile	·43 ..	·43 ..

It must be remembered that of the population of 1,000 in South Georgia only three are females; the birth-rate and the death-rate would be more correctly shown thus:—

	Birth rate per 1,000.	Death rate per 1,000.
Falkland Islands Colony	28·82	8·00
South Georgia	1·00	9·00

Except during the whaling season, there is no population in the South Shetlands; none whatever at the Sandwich Islands; and only four persons are permanently resident in the South Orkneys. These last named are officials of the Argentine Government at the Meteorological Station on Laurie Island.

COMMUNICATION.

(1) *Mails*.—Communication between the Colony and the outside world was limited. Only one mail and five cargo steamers of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company called at Stanley with mails during the year.

The interinsular communication of the Colony was maintained by the Falkland Islands Transport Company s.s. "Falkland," up to the end of the year, when the mail contract between the Government and the Company expired.

(2) *Cables, Telegraphs and Telephones*.—(a) Stanley is connected with Monte Video by a cable which is the property of the Admiralty, and is maintained and worked by a staff lent by the Western Telegraph Company.

(b) A 150 K.W. Wireless Station at Stanley, the property of the Admiralty, communicates with Cerrito (Monte Video), Ascension, &c.; and with the Government Wireless Telegraph Station at Fox Bay, West Falkland.

(c) The Stanley Township system of telephones is owned by the Colonial Government, and linked to it in the East Falkland are four privately-owned telephone lines, viz.: one from Darwin, one from Teal Inlet and Douglas Station, one from Fitzroy, and one from Port Louis South. These four lines cover some 150 miles of country. On the West Falkland practically all the stations are connected by telephone, and news received at Fox Bay by wireless telegraph may thus be disseminated over the Island.

INDUSTRIES.

(1) *Sheep-Farming*.—Practically the only industry in the Colony is sheep-farming. The estimated acreage of the Colony, including its adjacent islands, is 4,160,000 acres, all of which, or as much as can be used for pasture, is devoted to sheep.

The total number of sheep recorded is 645,738, as against 669,996 in the previous year. 21,849 sheep were exported, 23,937 killed for consumption, and 29,472 used in the Canning Factory.

The horses in the Colony numbered 2,486, together with 464 Brood Mares, 261 Foals; and the cattle, 5,406.

(2) *Mutton, Canning and Tallow*.—The Falkland Islands Company owns a factory at Goose Green, Darwin, East Falkland, where the surplus sheep of the Colony are utilised for canned mutton or boiled down for tallow; 12,222 cases of the former and 786 barrels of the latter having been exported during the year to the United Kingdom.

8,112 bales of wool and 1,201 bales of sheep-skins (valued at £322,000) were exported during the year; also 1,254 bales of hides valued at £2,559.

WHALING AND SEALING IN THE DEPENDENCIES.

The Whaling Season at South Georgia is divided into :—

- (a) The Summer Season : October to March.
- (b) The Winter Season : April to September. And Whaling is here conducted all the year round owing to the fact that the bases of operation are shore stations on the Island. At South Shetlands, where there is only one shore station, operations are conducted by floating factories and their attendant catchers, and the season extends from November to March only.

During the season 1918–19 the Companies operating numbered :—

	No.	" Catchers "
		employed.
At South Georgia	5	27
At South Shetlands	6	22
At South Orkneys	—	—

The season's work is represented by the following figures :—

	Whales Caught.	Barrels of Oil.	Bags of Guano.	Estimated Market Value.
At South Georgia ..	2,476	131,794	6,676	£1,802,500
At South Shetlands ..	1,763	84,456	—	
At South Orkneys ..	—	—	—	
	4,239	216,250	6,676	

The figures for the season 1917–18 are as follows :—

	Whales Caught.	Barrels of Oil.	Bags of Guano.	Estimated Market Value.
At South Georgia ..	3,199	202,503	994	£1,566,500
At South Shetlands ..	1,114	55,973	—	
At South Orkneys ..	—	—	—	
	4,313	258,476	994	

Though the "catch" of whales in 1918-19 was slightly less than that in 1917-18, 7,000 tons more of oil were produced, and the estimated market value had risen from £36 to £50 per ton and was continuing to rise.

It is estimated that the output from the shore factories at South Georgia is from 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. greater than that from the floating factories at South Shetlands, in proportion to the "catch," the reason being that the shore factories are able to treat the whole carcase of the whale, whereas the floating factories can only deal with the blubber and a small portion of the meat.

SHIPPING.

The tonnage of shipping during the year is represented by the following figures:—

Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.	
Entered at.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Stanley	31	39,094	—	—
Dependencies ..	32	39,161	5	5,567
	63	78,255	5	5,567

Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.	
Cleared from	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Stanley	32	39,027	—	—
Dependencies ..	37	40,113	3	3,305
	69	70,140	3	3,305

GENERAL TRADE.

The Imports to and Exports from the Colony and its Dependencies are represented by the following figures :—

IMPORTS.

To	From	
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies and Foreign Countries.
	£	£
Colony	121,649	43,893
South Georgia	600,892	255,847
	£722,541	£299,740
	Total ..	£1,022,281

EXPORTS.

From	To	
	United Kingdom.	British Colonies and Foreign Countries.
	£	£
Colony	401,972	2,540
South Georgia	910,846	137,475
South Shetlands	723,060	—
	£2,035,878	£140,015
	Total ..	£2,175,893

The figures for 1918 are :—

Imports .. £939,937 .. Exports .. £2,054,286

The Imports of the Colony consist of Household Goods and Ship Chandlers' Stores, Hardware, etc.; while those to South Georgia are mostly comprised of Coal, Timber, Hardware, and Machinery, Ship Chandlers' Stores, and Household Goods. The Exports from the Colony consist of Wool, Sheepskins, Hides, Canned Meat, and Tallow, while those from the Dependencies consist of Whale and Seal Oil, Guano and Baleen entirely.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) *Falkland Islands*.—The only records available for the year in respect of the Falkland Islands are those for the township of Stanley, which show that 30·29 inches of rain fell on 237 days out of the year, the maximum being 1·40 inches on the 28th May, and the minimum ·18 inches on the 24th October.

The Rainfall Records at Stanley for the past three years show :—

DAYS OF RAIN.

For 1917	234 ..	24·68 inches.
„ 1918	240 ..	27·57 „
„ 1919	237 ..	30·29 „

(2) *South Georgia (King Edward Cove)* :—

DAYS OF RAIN.

For 1919	229 ..	51·20 inches.
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the maximum being 3·364 inches on the 22nd August, and the minimum ·160 inches on the 21st November.

Mean Wind Force.—The mean wind force at King Edward Cove for the year was 2·43.

W. P. MARTIN,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
28th February, 1921.

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1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
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1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
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1075	Nyasaland	"

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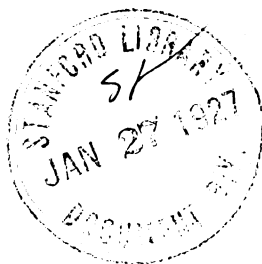
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No. 1077.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1044.)



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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known but a map contained in the first edition of the "*Legatio Babylonica*" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, The Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I. but shortly afterwards The Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684 a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684 the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I. GENERAL REVIEW.

1. The year 1920 was marked by two events of historic importance in the annals of the Colony, viz.: the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the celebration of the Tercentenary of the establishment of Representative Institutions. The 1st August, 1620, was the date of the first General Assembly in Bermuda, and it had been originally arranged to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of this occasion on the 1st August, 1920. On learning, however, of His Royal Highness's intention to include Bermuda in his tour the greater part of the celebrations were, with His Royal Highness's ready consent, postponed to coincide with his visit.

2. The actual Tercentenary date, 1st August, was marked by a special Joint Session of all branches of the Legislature held at St. George's in the "Old State House," now the Masonic Hall, which had been the site of the sessions of the early assemblies from 1620 onwards. The session was preceded by a special commemoration service held in St. Peter's Church (built in 1713) from which the members proceeded in procession to the State

House "at the third ringing of the bell" in accordance with the ancient formula. His Excellency the Governor who presided delivered a congratulatory address, and the following telegram which had been received from Their Majesties the King and Queen was read:—

"On this three hundredth anniversary of the first meeting of the General Assembly of Bermuda the Queen and I desire to express to you, to the Legislature, and to the inhabitants of the Colony, our hearty congratulations on the tercentenary of the establishment of the representative institutions which they have so long and so worthily maintained. We desire to express to you and to them our sincere wishes for the prosperity of one of the oldest Possessions of the Crown oversea, and our hope for its rapid recovery from the many trials and privations in which the War involved its people. We join with you and them in mourning the loss of the glorious dead whom Bermuda gave to the cause of freedom and of the Empire, and with you we are confident that their sacrifice will bear rich fruit in the years to come. We shall continue to watch the development of the Colony with the greatest interest, and we trust that the ancient ties which unite these islands to the Mother Country will be maintained with the same cordial goodwill that now unites us.

"I retain very happy recollections of the Islands and their people, and it is a special pleasure to the Queen and myself that our dear son will have the opportunity of visiting them in a year so full of memories of the past and of hope for the future.

"We join with you all in committing yourselves and your Islands to the Divine Protection."

After brief replies to His Excellency's address, a loyal address to Their Majesties was moved and passed and ordered to be transmitted by telegraph. The celebration was limited to the formal ceremonies on account of the recent death of Vice-Admiral Sir T. D. Napier, Commander-in-Chief, North America and West Indies, who to the deep regret of the whole community died in Bermuda on the 30th July.

3. In the early Assemblies both the Council and the elected representatives sat together, the practice of holding separate sessions of the Council and Assembly not being introduced till about 1673, when it excited indignant remonstrance from the Bermuda Company under whose government the Colony then was. The Joint Session on 1st August, 1920, was accordingly held to reproduce as nearly as possible the circumstances of the first session in 1620.

4. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived in the Colony in H.M.S. "Renown" on the 1st October. He transferred at the East End to H.M.S. "Calcutta," flagship of the

8th Cruiser Squadron (Rear Admiral Sir Alan Everett) and proceeded to Hamilton where he landed at 11 a.m., being met by His Excellency the Governor, Naval and Military officers and the leading officials and residents; a guard of honour was mounted by the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. After receiving an address from the Corporation of Hamilton His Royal Highness drove through the streets of the town to the Parliament House where he received an address from the Legislature to which His Royal Highness replied making special reference to the legislative tercentenary. After this ceremony His Royal Highness laid the foundation stone of the War Memorial in the grounds of the public buildings, the site being surrounded by men of the Bermuda Overseas Contingents and relatives of those who had fallen on active service. He then left for Government House where a large garden party was held in the afternoon. The day concluded with a state dinner at Government House and a "Tercentenary Ball" given by the Colony at the Princess Hotel at which His Royal Highness was present.

5. The following day was devoted to visits to H.M. Dockyard and other places of interest and concluded with a private dance at Government House.

6. On Sunday, 3rd October, His Royal Highness attended a church parade service at Prospect Camp and in the afternoon drove to St. George's where he renamed the Public Gardens and met the Mayor and Corporation and leading residents. A short address was presented by the Corporation. His Royal Highness embarked at 5 p.m. in St. George's and proceeded to H.M.S. "Renown," which sailed the same evening.

7. His Royal Highness's visit called forth a remarkable display of enthusiasm and affection, as indeed was anticipated by all who knew the deep-rooted loyalty towards the Crown which imbues the population of the Colony. It is seldom, however, that such an opportunity occurs of giving expression to this sentiment in which the whole population can join. The decorations of the streets both in Hamilton and St. George's and on the route between over which His Royal Highness drove reached a very high standard and the general effect was admirable.

8. The United States Government sent the U.S. Battleship "Kansas" (Rear Admiral Hughes) to greet His Royal Highness on his arrival in Bermuda and to participate in the Tercentenary festivities, a mark of courtesy which was much appreciated. The Colony was also fortunate in being able to welcome the Speaker of the Assembly of the Bahamas, who attended at the invitation of the Legislature to represent the sister Colony. The Speaker of the Barbados Assembly who was also invited was unfortunately unable to be present.

9. The Tercentenary was further marked by the striking off of two sets of special commemorative stamps, one according to a design ordered by the Executive and the other a later and more symbolical design at the special request of the Assembly. The second design has not yet been actually issued.

10. The year as a whole was exceedingly prosperous ; the tourist trade revived, the shipping and coaling trade reached considerable proportions, and the sale of agricultural products in the New York market realised the highest prices ever recorded. The revenue also was the highest on record. Further details will be found under Section II. and III of the report.

11. A very important project was set on foot during the year in the formation of the Bermuda Development Company, allied with Furness, Withy & Company, who hold the majority interest, to take up an area of about 500 acres between Harrington Sound and Castle Harbour for the purpose of establishing a "winter playground" including a large hotel, golf courses, boating, bathing and fishing facilities, &c. Good progress is being made with the work which when completed should add enormously to the attractions of the Islands as a tourist resort. Special legislative facilities were granted to allow of the acquisition of privately-owned lands in this area.

12. Public works were resumed but progress was hindered by a shortage of labour both skilled and unskilled. However, work on the St. George's Channel ("Town Cut") was considerably advanced and the new General Hospital known as the King Edward VII. Memorial Hospital, the building of which had been interrupted by the War, was sufficiently completed to allow of the Hospital being opened in July with the administration block and one wing in operation (32 beds). Another wing is being added which will double the present accommodation.

13. The chief difficulty encountered during the year was the shortage of labour referred to in paragraph 12, which was felt in practically all branches of activity. It was due in part to the increased demand brought about by the revival of trade in all branches and in part to the emigration of considerable numbers, especially artisans and domestic servants, to the United States, where the high wages prevailing proved an irresistible attraction. Further comment on this subject will be found under Sections III. and V. As a result progress was much retarded in certain directions, especially in the building trade and in the carrying on of public works, while its influence was also felt in the difficulty experienced in finding and retaining suitable candidates for various branches of the public service.

14. The Police Force was, however, entirely reorganised during the year under greatly improved conditions of service, 20 recruits being selected from the Metropolitan Police and other sources in England and brought out by the Chief of Police as a nucleus of the reorganised force. The general reorganisation of the public service is under consideration by the Legislature and awaits the report of a Select Committee of the Assembly.

15 The cost of living continued in Bermuda, as elsewhere, to be abnormally high and is further enhanced by the unfavourable rate of exchange on the United States of America and Canada

from which the greater part of our supplies are drawn. As far as can be judged the average cost of living in Bermuda is appreciably higher than in most parts of the United Kingdom, but lower than in the cities of the United States sea-board.

II. FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

16. The total Revenue for the year 1920 was £219,753 and the Expenditure £186,470, the corresponding figures for 1919 being Revenue £119,091 and Expenditure £107,240. Both Revenue and Expenditure figures were swelled by the inclusion of transactions connected with the raising of a local loan of £45,000 to pay off certain war liabilities. Under the local system of account loan transactions are included in the total figures for Revenue and Expenditure.

17. The balance in the Treasury on the 31st December, 1920, was £49,365 as compared with £16,082 at the end of 1919. The balance on 31st December, 1920, included a sum of £18,575 the unspent balance of the loan above referred to, £13,132 of this sum has since been allocated to the payment of certain outstanding liabilities in New York in connection with the operation of the s.s. "Charybdis," a cruiser converted to mercantile use and operated by the Colony between Bermuda and New York up to November, 1919. The balance carried to the services of 1921 was therefore £36,133.

18. The following is a comparative table of Revenue and Expenditure from 1914 onwards:—

				<i>Revenue.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
				£		£
1914	..	..	..	80,504	..	89,575
1915	..	..	..	106,467	..	97,643
1916	..	..	..	107,055	..	109,652
1917	..	..	..	100,447	..	105,867
1918	..	..	..	91,645	..	90,684
1919	..	..	..	119,091	..	107,240
1920	..	..	..	219,753	..	186,470

REVENUE.

19. Nearly all Heads of Revenue shewed substantial increases due to the revival of trade on the re-establishment of adequate steamship communication with New York. All classes of imports are affected by this, but especially the more expensive articles of

apparel, spirits, wines and tobacco. The total receipts from customs duties during 1920 were £145,411 as compared with £87,808 for 1919. The principal increases worthy of note were :—

		Receipts.		Increase over 1919.
		£		£
Cigars and Cigarettes	.. ..	8,442	..	2,780
Coal	.. ..	4,807	..	1,958
Malt Liquor	.. ..	5,084	..	1,140
Rum	.. ..	10,280	..	1,852
Spirits other than Rum	.. ..	13,588	..	7,848
Wine	.. ..	2,153	..	987
Fuel Oil	.. ..	1,445	..	1,369
<i>Ad Valorem</i> Duties	.. ..	77,564	..	32,450
10 per cent. Surtax on all Import Duties	.. ..	13,199	..	5,250

The importations of coal totalled 50,118 tons, a considerable increase due to the larger number of ships calling for bunkers.

The large increase in spirits other than rum arose from increased imports to meet demands of the tourist and shipping trade. Stocks were short in 1919 and could not be easily renewed then.

Fuel Oil.—A new fuelling station for ships was opened near St. George's by the West India Oil Company, a branch of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

Ad Valorem Duties.—The increased imports were widely distributed, the largest imports being shewn under clothing, cotton goods, confectionery, canned goods, flour, hardware, and agricultural supplies.

20. Receipts from sources other than Customs, exclusive of loans, totalled £28,658 as compared with £20,767 for 1919, the principal items being Lighthouse Tolls £4,895 (increase £2,860) and Postal revenue £18,053 (increase £8,013). Stamp duties are included under Postal Revenue, and the increase under this head is to a considerable extent attributable to this source, including the special duty of 5s. on all steamship passenger tickets or return tickets issued in the island.

EXPENDITURE.

21. Of the total expenditure £45,642 was paid in personal emoluments and £113,584 (exclusive of expenditures on loan account) under "other charges." The corresponding figures for 1919 were personal emoluments £25,379 and other charges £71,447. The total for personal emoluments, however, included £13,864 paid as bonus on official salaries (including £4,200 approximately, arrears from 1919). Bonus payments for 1919 were shewn under "Other Charges." The increase apart from this was due to the reorganisation of the Police Force and the opening of the new General Hospital.

22. Nearly all heads of expenditure shewed an increase, the largest being education (increase £1,607) due to an increase of the grants in aid to schools and teachers: total expenditure on educational services £6,268; legislature increase, £1,732, due to advance in cost of printing, reporting debates, &c.; police, £6,408, due to expenses of reorganisation and improved conditions of service; and public health, £4,557, due to the opening of the new hospital.

23. The expenses of the Trade Development Board, which is responsible for steamship subsidies and advertising, totalled £20,251 as compared with £6,990 for 1919.

24. Expenditure on public works totalled £41,767, an increase of £19,708 over 1919. This was due to the resumption of dredging works in the channels, the completion of portion of the new hospital and the advance in cost of materials, coal and wages.

25. The only substantial decrease was £3,818 in War Expenditure. The Colony remains liable for an annual contribution to the Imperial Treasury, payable for 15 years from 1914, of £3,450 and pensions of disabled men and the dependents of the fallen. The total for 1920 was £2,046.

26. Expenditure from loan funds was as follows:—

Compensation to Pilots in respect to War Services	£ 5,174
Refund of advance from St. George's Corporation for Dredging Works	3,781
Repairs of "Charybdis" in H.M. Dockyard	5,941
Balance of Expenses of sending Dredger to Lagos on Sale to Government of Nigeria	6,344
Purchase of Building for Police Barracks	5,180
Miscellaneous Expenses for "Charybdis"	921
Total (Shillings and Pence excluded)	£27,243

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

27. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt totalled £38,416, being £28,000 in inconvertible £1 notes issued during the War and a bank advance of £10,416 in connection with the operation of the "Charybdis." The assets totalled £98,156 including an investment fund as surety for the note issue the nominal value of which was £35,623. Assets also include a sum of £13,167 advanced for cost of management of the Government Savings Bank during the last 18 years, which the Bank is not yet in a position to refund.

PUBLIC DEBT.

28. The public debt is £85,000 viz.: £40,000 in local inscribed stock at 4½ per cent. raised in 1893 for channel improvements; and £45,000 at 5 per cent. raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities already referred to incurred during the War. The stock in the 1893 loan is redeemable in 1923; and the sinking fund totals £43,717 (nominal value of stock). Practically all the stock in both loans is held in the Colony.

29. The financial position of the Colony is therefore such that all liabilities including the funded loan raised in 1920 and redeemable in 1943 could be met to-day from existing liquid assets.

III. COMMERCIAL.

30. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1920 was £1,680,118 or about £678,000 more than in 1919, the highest figure hitherto recorded. The great increase was in the import trade which totalled nearly double that for 1919 as already indicated in the paragraphs dealing with customs receipts. The figures for imports and exports since 1913 are shewn below :—

					<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>
					£		£
1913	..	..	..	..	570,575	..	90,695
1914	..	..	..	..	565,611	..	106,661
1915	..	..	..	..	579,828	..	101,663
1916	..	..	..	..	734,799	..	139,825
1917	..	..	..	..	674,493	..	207,724
1918	..	..	..	..	692,742	..	139,825
1919	..	..	..	..	792,683	..	208,708
1920	..	..	..	..	1,414,250	..	265,868*

*Includes £20,000 in specie.

The balance between imports and exports is made up by :—

- (a) The Tourist Trade.
- (b) Bunkering and Repairs of Shipping.
- (c) Expenditure by Imperial Government on Local Forces.

IMPORTS.

31. The large increase is accounted for by the revival of the tourist trade, the resumption of public and other works, and the prevailing high prices. Imports are valued at the port of shipment. An increase in the tourist trade calls as may be imagined for increased imports of nearly every kind ; but especially shews in imports of cotton goods, clothing, confectionery, hardware, wines and spirits, tobacco, fancy goods and articles of luxury generally. The comparatively large number of ships calling for bunkers is shewn in the increase in imports of coal from 27,000 tons in 1919 to 50,000 tons during 1920. In anticipation of a full tourist " season " for 1920-21, the first since 1913-14, imports were heavy during the latter part of the year. During the War the interruption of the tourist trade was compensated for to a certain extent by the large number of ships, both naval and mercantile, calling at Bermuda. The apparent increase in imports during the war period is due, however, rather to increase in values than in quantities. Much smaller quantities of many articles were imported than in pre-war times.

EXPORTS.

32. The total value of exports was £265,868. Of this sum the value of vegetable crops exported was £236,476. The balance includes re-exports, such as spirits, empty containers, &c., valued at approximately £6,300 and £20,000 in specie. The value of crop exports in 1919 was just over £200,000. In 1920 the quantity of potatoes exported was less by over one-third (54,000 barrels as compared with 91,000 barrels) but the value was higher, viz., £145,283 as compared with £120,291. A considerably larger quantity of "green" vegetables carried mostly in the "chill-rooms" was exported, viz.: 260,000 crates valued at £32,700 as against 162,500 crates valued at £22,964 in 1919.

Practically the whole of these crops goes to the United States of America, only small shipments of potatoes and onions being sent to Canada and the West Indies.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

33. The sources of imports as compared with 1919 are shewn in the following statement:—

	1919.		1920.
	£		£
From United Kingdom ..	59,990	..	271,708
.. Canada	230,000	..	338,166
.. Other British Possessions ..	36,000	..	59,775
.. Foreign Countries ..	466,000	..	744,601
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£791,990	..	£1,414,250

34. The largest items of import from the United Kingdom were clothing (£22,257), cotton goods (£28,347), fancy goods (£23,146), cigarettes (£25,297) and wines and spirits (£46,784). Increased importations were, however, observed of numerous other articles and there is no doubt that if orders can be filled with reasonable promptitude and satisfactory communications assured the market for United Kingdom goods can be considerably developed.

35. The principal imports from Canada were butter, bran, box materials, canned fish, cheese, flour, hay and oats, paper and potatoes (largely for seed). Imports from Canada via United States ports appear as of United States origin.

36. Imports from other British possessions are entirely from the British West Indies and consist of sugar, rum and cigars. Imports from foreign countries are practically all from the United States and cover a wide range of articles. The largest items were beef (chilled) £53,372, boots and shoes £37,997, canned goods £12,313, cotton goods £42,894, electrical goods £11,560, fancy goods £25,365, groceries £18,129, hardware £27,604, preserved meats £32,629, coal £97,089, fuel oil £25,012.

37. In June, 1920, the Colony sent representatives to Ottawa to attend the Canada-West Indies Trade Conference. The Agreement concluded was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature.

AGRICULTURE.

38. In the early part of the year very high prices were realised for many local crops, especially the early potatoes, which realised in some cases record prices as much as \$26.00 per barrel (nearly £7 at the then rate of exchange) being paid for a few barrels of Bermuda potatoes. These prices, however, were exceptional and were counterbalanced by the high cost of all materials needed by the grower. There was a heavy decline in prices in the autumn of 1920 with the result that crops grown from seed and with materials bought at the highest period of the price movement are being sold at little profit or in some cases at a loss. A very heavy item was the increase in the price of containers, barrels which in 1914 were sold at 1s. 6d. each cost 5s. 6d. in 1920 and crates for fresh vegetables increased from 5½d. each to 2s.

39. The local agriculturist reckons by "seasons" and not by calendar years. On this basis 1919-20 was an exceptionally good season and 1920-21 gives every sign of being a poor one. The "season" may be said to extend from November to May. The prices realised for local produce depend almost entirely on conditions in the New York market beyond the influence of local growers, and very little on the size of the Bermuda crop.

40. The dearth of labour was much felt by vegetable growers. Unfortunately the period of highest demand in all spheres comes at much the same time, as the vegetable "season" is also the tourist season and the busiest time for shipping.

SHIPPING.

41. The year 1920 was one of the busiest on record in the local "shipping" trade, i.e., the bunkering, supply and repairing of ships. The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is given below :—

				<i>British</i>		<i>Total.</i>
				<i>Tons.</i>		<i>Tons.</i>
1916	..	..	..	973,403	..	1,630,360
1917	..	..	..	687,340	..	1,087,980
1918	..	..	..	368,343	..	732,613
1919	..	..	..	632,212	..	1,258,188
1920	..	..	..	1,019,377	..	2,371,064

42. Of foreign tonnage using the port by far the largest proportion was American shipping (748,413 tons). A large number of American vessels put in for coal, oil, or repairs, and much of the coal used is imported in American bottoms. British tonnage largely predominates at Hamilton, the port of call for the regular lines, and foreign tonnage at St. George's, where the great bulk of the repairing and bunkering is done. The steam coal used is almost entirely Pocahontas coal from the United States.

TOURIST TRADE.

43. About 12,000 "tourists" are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1920. Tourist travel to Bermuda did not fully revive, however, till the latter part of 1920, as favourable conditions were only re-established in December, 1919, when the New York-Bermuda service of the Furness Bermuda Line was inaugurated. The "season" runs from November to the end of April or early May and comparisons between one "season" and another could be better made for those periods. The figures returned, however, cover the calendar year and so cover part of two "seasons." Summer travel promises to increase considerably. The outlook for the tourist business is excellent. The steamers provided are fast and admirably equipped and local attractions are being developed. When the effect of the wider advertising recently carried on has had time to be felt this business should develop to the full extent of the facilities available.

44. A most important addition both to the attractions of the Islands and to the accommodation available is involved in a scheme of the Bermuda Development Company to build a large new hotel with attached bungalows in an area near Castle Harbour known as "Tuckers Town" which covers some of the most charming scenery in the islands. This area which is at present sparsely occupied offers facilities for an admirable golf course (now under construction) and for bathing, fishing, boating, riding, &c., under conditions which could scarcely be surpassed. The whole scheme, which was formulated and is being carried out principally by Furness, Withy & Co., has been planned on the most attractive lines, and should provide an admirable winter holiday ground.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

45. The unfavourable rate for sterling exchange continues to be the principal feature of trading conditions. It not only provides a continued and serious additional element of uncertainty but adds greatly to the apparent cost of all goods not purchased in the United Kingdom or European countries. It also is a frequent cause of misunderstanding and dispute with foreign visitors, who are perplexed by the constant variations in the value of their money. The Government has published notices drawing attention to the fact that legal tender is British currency only and that purchasers may demand that charges be made in this currency unless it has been previously otherwise agreed. One effect which has been perhaps not without advantage to the Government is the fact that the rate of exchange tends to keep any surplus available within the Colony. This probably added to the facility with which the local loan of £45,000 at 5 per cent. was subscribed entirely by residents in the Colony. It is believed that advantage was also taken of the exchange rate in some cases to sell out securities held in America at a premium and re-invest the proceeds in the local stock.

46. No further issue of local notes has been made, but, owing to a threatened shortage of silver coin, notes of 5s. and 2s. 6d. value were prepared and held ready for issue. Supplies of the new British coinage were, however, obtained in time to render this step unnecessary. In addition to British Treasury notes there is a considerable quantity of American paper put in circulation which is naturally eagerly sought for at the present rates of exchange—so much so in fact that it is perhaps a misnomer to describe it as “in circulation.” It is used largely for remittances to the United States of America.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS.

STEAMSHIP.

47. The service with New York of the Furness Bermuda Line was admirably carried on and gave general satisfaction. The contract provides for bi-weekly trips during the winter months, December to April, and not less than one in ten days for the remainder. The steamers “Fort Hamilton” (5,530 tons) and “Fort Victoria” (7,784 tons) are well equipped and maintain a speed of 15 to 16 knots during the winter, making the trip usually in under 48 hours from dock to dock. They offer ample refrigerated space and more general cargo space than can be utilised.

48. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a fortnightly service of exemplary regularity with Halifax and the West Indies. Imports from Canada by these vessels continue to increase and there is a growing demand for passenger accommodation, which exceeds the supply for a large part of the year. The provisions of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, 1920, which was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature provide for an extension of this service affording weekly trips to Bermuda and the larger West Indian Colonies and an improved type of vessel. The proportion of subsidy allotted to Bermuda was £2,000 per annum. At present the line is subsidised by the Canadian Government only. If a service from Jamaica to the United Kingdom which passes by Bermuda could be so arranged as to meet at Bermuda the ships of the projected improved Canada-West Indies service for the transfer of passengers, a considerable development of the passenger trade might result, and an excellent alternative route between the West Indies and the United Kingdom would be afforded. Moreover communication between Jamaica and the other West Indies would be made possible without proceeding to Northern ports to change steamers.

Communication with United Kingdom.

49. Freighters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company operated by Henry Langridge & Sons, have lately been calling at Bermuda every month or six weeks on their way from United Kingdom ports to Havana. This is a most useful service to local importers and if regularity of sailing can be assured should be increasingly patronised.

50. There is no direct service to the United Kingdom but occasional freighters, some fitted with accommodation for a few passengers, have called. Though Bermuda does not provide sufficient traffic to be the terminus of a direct service, a service calling at Bermuda on its way to England would book a much larger number of passengers than the size of the Colony would indicate. Regularity of sailing, however, is essential.

INLAND.

51. There are over 100 miles of good driving roads in the Colony, the road surface being on the whole excellent though the gradients are severe in some places. The main islands are connected with each other by bridges and in the case of St. George's Island by a causeway. Steam ferry boats are used between Hamilton and the western portions of the Islands. Motor vehicles are not allowed, having been prohibited by law in 1908. The delay incurred in travelling between Hamilton and St. George's is a source of inconvenience to many and several

attempts have been made to repeal the laws prohibiting the use of motors or to provide for a limited service of public buses, but so far without success. It is claimed with a good deal of force by those opposed to their use that the island roads are too narrow and winding for fast traffic and that the surface, while sufficient for horse-drawn vehicles, would soon deteriorate under use by fast motor vehicles. The dust nuisance in so thickly populated an area is also a serious consideration. It is stated moreover on behalf of the tourists who visit the islands in large numbers that the absence of motors is one of their chief attractions.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE.

52. The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica viâ Turks Islands. Telegraphic communication with the West Indies has been subject to frequent interruptions. The rate to the United Kingdom is 2s. 6d. a word.

53. The Naval Wireless Station takes messages for ships at sea and also for Canada and beyond viâ Barrington Passage. It is also used for civil traffic to the West Indies during cable interruption, but Wireless Telegraphy has not proved altogether satisfactory in communicating with the West Indies.

54. There is a local telephone company whose lines extend throughout the islands.

POST OFFICE.

55. There are 19 Post Offices and sub Post Offices throughout the Islands with two deliveries a day of local mails. Ocean mails are delivered as they arrive. The traffic during the tourist season is considerable. The high rate of exchange made it necessary to raise the commission on Money Orders for Canada and the United States of America during 1920 to slightly above the commercial rate. The parcel post is being increasingly used for small importations not only by private importers but by commercial firms as it is frequently cheaper than paying prevailing freight rates. As the postage on parcels is retained by the despatching country under the terms of the agreements governing parcel post to Bermuda the expense of handling the large number received falls somewhat hardly on the local Post Office which despatches only a small number of parcels. The Post Office, as a whole, however, is more than self-supporting.

V. VITAL STATISTICS: PUBLIC HEALTH: GENERAL CONDITIONS.

VITAL STATISTICS.

56. The civil population was estimated at 21,987, a very slight increase over 1919. The proportion of white to coloured persons is 7,509 white to 14,478 coloured. The birth-rate was 26·15 per 1,000 (20·1 among the whites and 29·35 among the coloured population). The death-rate was 17·10 per 1,000, being 14·24 for the white and 18·57 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 14 per cent. of living births, one third of the deaths occurring during the first month after birth. The number of still births gives a percentage of 6·6 per 100 living births.

57. Illegitimate births numbered 19·4 per cent. of the total (4·3 for whites and 24·7 for coloured population).

58. There were 164 marriages recorded or 7·45 per 1,000. The marriage rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for bachelors 27, and for spinsters 23.

PUBLIC HEALTH—CLIMATE.

59. The general conditions are very good and with a little improvement in certain directions could be made almost beyond fault. There are no tropical diseases other than an occasional mild type of a fever diagnosed as dengue. This, however, is neither frequent nor widespread. Malaria is unknown. A certain amount of tuberculosis (34 deaths in 1920) is found, which is often contracted by the coloured inhabitants who leave the islands to work in northern climates. Having contracted it they return to the Colony, where it develops and sometimes is conveyed to other members of the family. During the summer months there is a good deal of enteritis among children which can, however, be avoided by care in keeping food, milk, &c., free from flies and perfectly fresh. A mild type of typhoid also occurs sporadically in the summer months but is not common and seldom spreads. Each house has its own rain-water cisterns, the only water supply, so that infection is rarely spread through infection of water supply. With ordinary care and cleanliness these infections can be and are avoided by the vast majority. Taken all round the climate and conditions make Bermuda one of the healthiest spots in the Empire.

60. Public Health conditions are receiving increasing care from the Government, and an improved system of inspection and control was introduced during the year under report.

61. The very agreeable character of the climate during the greater part of the year no doubt is of great value in the preservation of health. There are no extremes of heat or cold, and even during the summer months of July, August and September the atmosphere though at times enervating and excessively humid is not really trying to those who get sufficient out-door exercise. Typical meteorological data for 1920 were :—

Mean Temperature :			
January	62.5°		
April	71.4°		
July	82.8°		
November	76.3°		
Highest Temperature	88.0°F. (10th August).		
Lowest Temperature	50.0°F. (28th February).		
Mean Relative Humidity	76 per cent.		
No. of Days Rain	163		
Total Rainfall	52.52 ins.		
Average Rainfall, 10 years	54.45 ins.		

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

62. The high cost of living continues here as elsewhere to be the most serious factor in the general life of the Colony. Bermuda has never in recent times been a cheap place, and it is now decidedly an expensive one. It is estimated that the cost of living in the latter part of 1920 for working class families was about 180 per cent. above pre-war level. The price of commodities is much affected by the unfavourable rate for sterling exchange as nearly all food supplies are imported from the United States of America and Canada. Wages have advanced considerably but not on the whole as much as living costs and in many classes there has been a lowering of the standard of living. It is still, however, good compared with other places of a similar character. Wages for artisans run from about 12s. to 16s. a day ; with higher rates for specially skilled men.

63. There has been a shortage of housing accommodation as building was almost at a standstill during the latter part of the War, and is being only gradually resumed owing to the high costs of materials and shortage of labour. There has been a considerable demand for houses and cottages by visitors during the winter season which has made further inroads on the available accommodation and resulted in a sharp rise in rents especially among the better-class houses. The revival of the tourist trade and the demand for residences has also brought about a rise in the value of land in the central portion of the islands. It seems certain that the development of a tourist colony at Tuckers Town, referred to in Part III.—Tourist Trade—paragraph 44, will produce a similar effect in that district.

64. The revival of trade and resumption of public and other works revealed a marked shortage of labour in all directions. This is enhanced by the emigration of considerable numbers of the labouring class to the United States attracted by the

prevailing high wages. Between 850 and 900 passports were issued to labourers, artisans, and domestic servants leaving the Colony. A proportion of these return, and many more finding conditions in a northern climate not to their liking would probably do so if they had the means. The withdrawal of this number of persons from labour in so small a community soon makes itself felt and has been a genuine obstacle to the progress of many works. The shortage among domestic servants has been especially marked. The "seasonal" character of many employments in connection with the tourist trade is also an unsettling factor.

65. There is a good deal of juvenile crime in the Colony and unfortunately it has not yet been possible to provide a reformatory or industrial school, so that magistrates dealing with such cases are placed in the dilemma of awarding ineffective penalties or sending juvenile offenders to the common prisons; a most objectionable alternative. The prevalence of juvenile crime is in many cases due to the indifference or neglect of parents or guardians. Better educational facilities might improve matters, but it is very difficult to ensure the attendance of small vagrants whose natural guardians are indifferent to or even ignorant of their whereabouts and means of livelihood.

66. Education is compulsory up to the age of thirteen, but there are no Government schools, the system being carried out by subsidising private schools which reach the required standard. Parents therefore are at liberty to choose which school their children attend. School fees for indigent children are paid by the Government. The system has certain advantages but tends to produce too large a number of small schools, which increases the difficulty of inspection and of enforcing attendance. There were 30 schools in 1919 receiving Government grants with a total of 2,500 children on the rolls.

67. The social condition of the coloured population is greatly superior to the average in most colonies of a similar character, as will be readily apparent to any observer who notes their neat, substantial dwellings and general orderly behaviour. There are very few paupers. The poor laws are administered by the Parish Vestries who maintain paupers by outdoor relief and in the poor-houses. A proposal is under consideration to establish a central poor-house for seven of the nine parishes.

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1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919-1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919

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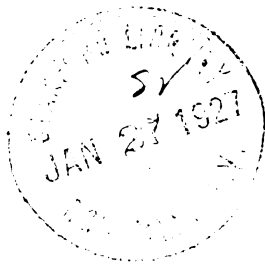
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GRENADA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.—Situated in the extreme south of the Caribbean Sea, Grenada is the nearest British island to the mainland of South America with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago. It lies 90 miles north of Trinidad, and between the parallels of $12^{\circ} 30'$ and $11^{\circ} 58'$ North latitude and $61^{\circ} 20'$ and $61^{\circ} 35'$ west longitude. The island is about 21 miles in length and about 12 in its greatest breadth. Its area is 125 square miles, but including Carriacou, an island to the north, the area of the Colony of Grenada is 133 square miles.

Grenada is mountainous and well watered by streams. Its coast-line is rugged, especially on the western coast, and towards the south is deeply indented with bays. St. George's Harbour, landlocked and deep-watered, is one of the most beautiful in the West Indies.

The mountain spurs, clothed with forest to their summits, intersect the island into numerous picturesque valleys. There are two small lakes, formed in extinct craters, one called the Grand Etang, being situated near the centre of the island, 1,740 feet above sea level, while the other, Lake Antoine, is near the sea on the eastern coast. A sanatorium is established near the former.

Climate.—The climate can be classed as excellent, especially from December to May, when it is delightful. The trade winds are steadily prevalent during this period, but occasionally fail in the autumn months, which are somewhat damp and hot.

The range of temperature is small, and tends to make the climate equable and healthy. The thermometer seldom reaches 90° in the shade, or drops below 70° , and these occasions are specially recorded in the meteorological notes of the year. The highest temperature in 1920 was 90° , on October 17 and November 27, and the lowest 69° on March 8. The average mean temperature is 79° .

The rainfall varies according to altitude. In the lowlands of the south the annual amount is as low as 30 inches; in the mountainous centre it approaches 140 inches. At St. George's, midway between the two, the rainfall in 1920 was 68·66 inches. Over the past 29 years, the average has been 76·58 inches yearly.

Historical.—Grenada was discovered by Columbus on August 15, 1498, but for more than 100 years after its discovery the island was left in the undisturbed possession of the aboriginal inhabitants, who were of the Carib race. Early in the seventeenth century both English and French adventurers made efforts at occupation of the island, and after being owned by French proprietors for some years it was annexed to France in 1674.

In 1795-6, influenced by the French Republic, a rebellion against the British rule broke out, and the Lieutenant-Governor and 47 other British subjects were massacred by the rebels. The rising was suppressed in June, 1796, by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the ringleaders executed.

The later history of the Colony has been peaceful and uneventful, and Grenada has reached a high state of development and prosperity.

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The period of abnormal prosperity which the Colony had enjoyed during the past few years reached its maximum in 1920. Cocoa, which is the staple product of the Colony and accounts for from 80 to 85 per cent of the value of the exports, attained the price of 130s. per cwt. The average pre-war prices ranged from 50s. to 65s. Spices and cotton, the other main crops, also reached unprecedented prices.

Altogether the trade balance in favour of the Colony, as represented by the excess in value of exports over imports during the past five years, has amounted to £1,031,097.

Towards the end of 1920 market quotations dropped, in consequence of the financial depression throughout the world, and sales were difficult to effect at any price. The prosperity of the past few years has unfortunately not been used to the best advantage. The set-back in prices appears to have taken people by surprise, and retrenchment has been found necessary in almost every direction.

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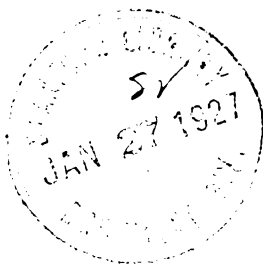
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Royal Highness held a reception on board H.M.S. "Renown." The Prince's visit had been eagerly looked forward to throughout the Colony, and numbers thronged the streets of St. George's, which were gaily decorated. His Royal Highness spoke to the School children in the Market Square, and inspected the officers and men who took part in the War. With many of these the Prince entered into conversation, and the interest which His Royal Highness took in the general affairs of the Colony evoked much enthusiasm and gratification. The Prince of Wales has endeared himself to the people of the Colony, and has deepened and strengthened in Grenada, as elsewhere, the devoted loyalty of the people to the Throne.

Public Health.—Health conditions during the year were good. The death-rate, 17·5 per 1,000, is the lowest since 1901, in which year the same rate occurred. 43·9 per cent. of the total deaths were of children below the age of five years. This is a reduction on the percentage in 1917 which was 51·0, but it is still too high. Intestinal diseases, due to insufficient and improper feeding, are the cause of most of the deaths of children, and remedial measures were undertaken during the year by the Government and the District Boards to counteract the evil. Deducting infantile deaths, the adult death-rate in proportion to the population above five years of age becomes reduced to nearly 10 per 1,000, and compares favourably with the death-rate in temperate zones.

Diarrhœa and enteritis caused 304 deaths (4·0 per 1,000 of the population), dysentery 99 (1·3 per 1,000), and malaria 77 deaths (1·0 per 1,000).

Water Supplies.—There is a pipe-borne water service in all the parishes of the island except St. David's, the latter being supplied with numerous protected springs and streams. Certain lands forming the catchment area of the water supply of St. George's were acquired by the Government during the year in order to prevent pollution.

III.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The revenue during 1920 amounted to £134,128 and the expenditure to £148,174, resulting in a deficit of £14,046.

The corresponding figures for previous years are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
1915-16	96,420	103,992	—	- 7,572
1916-17	114,525	108,078	6,447	—
1917-18	106,138	109,390	—	- 3,252
1918-19	110,387	108,252	2,135	—
1919 (nine months) ..	87,295	107,011	—	- 19,716
1920	134,128	148,174	—	- 14,046

The public debt of the Colony amounts to £223,670, against which there is an accumulated sinking fund of £57,283, while £54,535 of the latest Loan issue remains unexpended. This leaves the Colony with a net indebtedness under Loan Funds of £111,852.

The assets at 31st December stood at £105,725 and the liabilities at £79,976, showing a credit surplus of £25,749 as compared with a surplus of £39,795 at the opening of the year. No allowance for depreciation of investments has been taken into account in these figures.

Owing to the impossibility of realising the surplus investments of the Government except at a loss owing to their present depreciated market value, the Colony's current account with the Colonial Bank was overdrawn at the end of the year by £19,573, while a further sum of £17,235 was borrowed from local loan funds.

An issue of Government Currency Notes of the denominations of 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. was made during the year to the amount of £12,500, which had an effect equivalent to a loan of the same amount without interest for two years, owing to the fact that redemption of the notes is postponed by law until the expiration of two years from the date of issue. A reserve fund in specie to the extent of 25 per cent. of the issue will then be provided by the Government.

Banks.—Two banks are established in the Colony, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada. Branches of the former also exist at Grenville and Carriacou. Both Banks conduct a Savings Bank Department in addition to their other business.

The authorised note circulation in the Colony of the Colonial Bank was £25,000, and of the Royal Bank of Canada 100,000 dollars. The actual amount of paper money in circulation at the end of the year was approximately £30,000, in addition to currency notes to the amount of £12,500 issued by the Government.

Gold coins have disappeared, the principal medium of monetary exchange, in addition to notes, being silver, which is legal tender to any amount.

Savings Bank.—The Government Savings Bank continues to attract patronage, although the local branches of the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have established similar banks. The depositors at the end of the year numbered 1,509, and the amount at their credit was £18,636. In 1913 when only the Government Bank was in operation the depositors numbered 2,356 and the deposits amounted to £27,936.

IV.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

Trade Agreement with Canada.—The agreement entered into by the Canada-West Indies Conference held at Ottawa in June, 1920, at which the Colony was represented, was ratified by the Legislative Council on August 31, and was followed in November by a new Customs Duties Ordinance. This Ordinance provides for a preference of 33½ per cent. on all goods of Empire origin or manufacture. The general *ad valorem* rate of duty is fixed at 15 per cent., the preferential rate being 10 per cent. Under the old Agreement of 1912, which is brought to an end by the present one, a fair increase of trade between the Dominion and the Colony had sprung up, and it is expected that a further growth will take place in consequence of the increased preferences now given, and of the improved steamship service which it is intended to provide.

Imports and Exports.—The total trade of the Colony during the year was £1,236,877. Imports amounted to £620,378 and exports to £616,499.

This is the high water mark of the Colony's trade, and is more than double the value recorded in any pre-war year. This is due solely to the increase in prices, as there has been no increase in volume. Owing to the extent to which the Colony is already developed there is little scope for augmentation of existing crops, or introduction of new ones.

The United States takes the leading place in regard to imports, 34·3 per cent. coming from that country as compared with 31·3 per cent. from the United Kingdom. Since 1913 the United States of America percentage has grown from 31 to 34, while that of the United Kingdom has declined from nearly 40 to 31.

This diversion of trade is still more noticeable in the case of manufactured goods, the importations from the United States of America having increased in the seven years from 13 to 54 per cent. The Collector of Customs reports that notwithstanding the high rate of exchange certain classes of goods can be obtained of as good a quality and cheaper from the United States of America than from the United Kingdom. Such articles include drills, shirtings, Oxfords, and hosiery of all kinds, also dress materials and boots and shoes in good styles and greater variety. Certain classes of hardware are also said to be as good as and cheaper than British manufactures. American medicines and drugs, perfumery, toilet soaps and common soap are also displacing importations from the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the substantial preference of 33½ per cent. on all goods of Empire manufacture provided for in the new Customs Duties Ordinance to which reference has been made, it still appears that the United States of America can compete successfully with the United Kingdom. Unless prices of goods

manufactured in the United Kingdom become considerably reduced, the diversion of trade to the nearer New York market will continue, especially when the rate of exchange falls to a normal figure.

With regard to exports, cocoa to the value of £372,135 went to the United Kingdom, and £66,284 to the United States of America, the total value of cocoa exports being £466,658.

All the cotton, to the value of £40,950 was exported as usual to the United Kingdom.

Much of the trade in spices was transferred to the United States of America and Canada, where better prices appear to have been obtained. Nutmegs to the value of £36,625 were exported to the United States of America and £11,939 to Canada, the exports to the United Kingdom being £9,969. Seven hundred and twenty-four hundredweights of mace exported to the United States of America were estimated at the value of £5,230, and 1,206 cwt. to the United Kingdom were recorded at £6,852. Ninety-nine hundredweights went to Canada at a value of £969.

The exportation of lime juice was considerably less than in 1919 and was of the value of £9,025.

Agriculture.—The crop of cocoa in the crop year ending September 30 was one of the largest on record, 76,686 bags (180 lb.) having been exported as against 77,275 in 1917, the record year. Prices were high except towards the end of the year, when they fell rapidly, the range being from a maximum of 130s. to a minimum of 50s.

The exports of spices (principally nutmegs and mace) showed some decline from the two preceding years. Prices on the whole were good, the estimated value of the export being £73,232, which was only exceeded by that of the preceding year, when it reached £103,773.

The exports of cotton (the cultivation of which is mainly confined to Carriacou) were the highest in value on record, the value being £48,679 as compared with £14,523 in the preceding crop year. The type produced is Marie Galante, only a few bales of Sea Island cotton being grown.

The cultivation of limes has not proved a permanent success, and the exportation has fallen in quantity from 178,525 gallons in 1918 to 23,310 in the past year. The main reason of its decline is that lands not already under other permanent crops are of little value and not particularly suited for new industries. The accuracy of the remarks of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies (Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G.), in reporting on limes and coconuts in Grenada in 1914, are now observable, and they are worthy of repetition. They were as follows: "It is essential in pushing new industries that the crops should be planted in favourable situations: this will have to be kept well in mind in Grenada, where the best lands are given

up to cocoa; it is not likely that success with new crops will be obtained if they are relegated to land of little value and not particularly suitable for them."

Land.—The number of separate lots of land may be seen from the following:—

Total taxable acreage.	Number of Lots.							Total.
	2½ acres and under.	Over 2½ to 5 acres.	Over 5 to 7 acres.	Over 7 to 10 acres.	Over 10 to 20 acres.	Over 20 to 100 acres.	Over 100 acres.	
75,377	8,756	1,362	378	200	237	181	138	11,252

From these particulars it will be observed that Grenada is a land of small peasant owners, the majority of the holdings being under five acres. The acquisition of land by peasants began towards the end of last century, when many sugar estates were derelict, and the new industry of cocoa was being established. A few acres under the latter crop provides a comfortable living for a family of the peasant class, and the success which attended the first efforts of these small proprietors led to a great demand for small lots, which were readily granted by the proprietors of unprofitable sugar estates. The settling of small holders on their own lands was afterwards encouraged by the Land Settlement Scheme of the Government, which was first instituted in 1903. The main features of the scheme consist of the buying up of large estates, which are then divided into small lots, supplied with suitable roads and tracts connecting with the by-ways, and then sold on easy terms of payment extending over twelve years. Owing to the extent to which the Colony was given up to cocoa, the latter crop was prohibited on Government Land Settlement lots in order to encourage the growth of local food crops, the supply of which is insufficient for the demands of the ordinary people, and the dearth of which makes conditions arduous for the poorer classes.

There are no Crown Lands for sale, the lands remaining in the possession of the Crown being reserved in forest, for preservation of the rainfall. The extent of the Government Forest Reserve is 2,652 acres.

The demand for land in Grenada is so keen that persons other than natives or residents stand little chance of acquiring it. All the lots under the Government scheme are taken up. On the few occasions when large estates change hands, competition of local proprietors and residents forces the price up to a figure which makes purchase by an outsider unprofitable. Lands

under full cultivation have fetched as high as £200 an acre. Uncultivated land is scarce and comparatively poor, and hence unsuitable for profitable cultivation of any new industry.

Industries.—With the exception of the manufacture of sugar and rum there are no industries of any importance whatever in the island. Sugar is made to a very small extent, and the Colony imports most of its supplies of that commodity. Enough rum is made to supply the local market, which is protected by a heavy countervailing duty on imported rum amounting to a protection of 4s. per proof gallon. There are thirteen distilleries, the total rum made during the year being 51,907 proof gallons.

An ice factory is established in St. George's with the aid of a Government subsidy.

A small whaling industry started at Point Saline on the southern coast a year or two ago has not developed, the returns of the past year being very poor, and the industry is not likely to be proceeded with.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, the principal being the following :—

- No. 3. The Profiteering Ordinance, which follows the lines of the English Imperial Act, modified to suit local conditions.
- No. 4. The West Indies Court of Appeal (Local Provisions) Ordinance, to give effect to the Imperial West Indian Court of Appeal Act.
- No. 6. The Seditious Publications Ordinance giving power to prohibit the importation and circulation of seditious publications.
- No. 7. The Paper Currency Ordinance, providing for the issue of Government Currency Notes of the denominations of 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.
- No. 15. The Customs Duties Ordinance, following the model agreed upon at a Trade and Customs Conference held at Trinidad in 1919, and providing for preferential rates of duties on goods of Empire origin or manufacture in consequence of the Canada-West Indies Conference held at Ottawa in 1920.

• VI.—EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary.—The number of schools, 59, was the same as at the end of 1919. Eleven are Government schools, and 48 Grant-in-aid schools. One new building was erected to form the premises of the St. George's Anglican School. The building is a large one, of pleasing architectural design, and reflects credit on the Anglican organisation.

The number of pupils on the roll was 9,437 and the average attendance was 5,847. The contribution by Government in aid of primary education amounted to £8,919, giving a cost of £1 10s. 6d. per head of average attendance.

The Education Ordinance was amended during the year to provide for the advancing of the compulsory school age from 12 to 14 years. A School Attendance Officer for St. George's Parish was appointed under the amending Ordinance.

Secondary.—Secondary education is provided for at the Government Boys' School, the St. Joseph's Convent School for Girls and the Anglican Girls' High School. Satisfactory progress was made at all these schools, the results of the Cambridge Local Examination showing an improvement over those of the previous year.

An external scholarship of the value of £175 (temporarily increased to £210) and tenable for five years at an approved university is provided annually by the Government.

Technical Education.—A technical school, attached to the new Anglican School buildings, started operations in November, 1920, the curriculum including drawing to scale, carpentry, printing, metal work, book-binding, basket work, wood turning and carving, and the art of colour mixing and painting.

One half of the cost of equipment was defrayed by the Government, and a grant-in-aid to the school of £75 per annum for three years was approved by the Legislative Council. The management of the school is under a Committee consisting of the Manager of the St. George's Anglican Boys' School, the Superintendent of Public Works and the Inspector of Schools.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The island is well supplied with main roads and by-ways, there being 146 miles of the former and 305 miles of the latter.

A Government mail and passenger motor service is run between St. George's and Sauteurs and supplies the eastern side of the island. Mails and passengers on the western side are conveyed by motor launch, to which a subsidy is given. A serviceable main road on the western side is also available for traffic.

Post Offices are established in the principal centre of each parish, and there are numerous small postal stations throughout the Colony.

The telephone service is under Government control, and is efficiently run at a very moderate cost, a payment of 12s. per month entitling the subscriber to an unlimited service throughout the entire island without payment for trunk calls. There are six telephone exchanges, 159 miles of direct wire, and 938 miles of wire connecting subscribers and exchanges.

There is no inland telegraph service, and no wireless installation. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company supplies the means of external telegraphic communication, and furnishes a daily press news bulletin.

Shipping.—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company steamers plying between Canada and the West Indies call fortnightly on the up and down journeys. A direct service to New York is maintained, Grenada being the first and last port of call on the Furness-Withy Steamer line from New York to Grenada and Trinidad. Cargo steamers of the Harrison Line, carrying also a few passengers, and plying between the United Kingdom and the West Indies, also visit the Colony at frequent intervals.

HERBERT FERGUSON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada.
8th June, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	"
1044	Bermuda	"
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919-1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



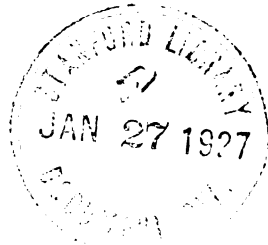
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No. 1079.

UGANDA.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918-1919 see No. 1054.)



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No. 1079.

UGANDA.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE UGANDA PROTECTORATE FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31st MARCH, 1920.*

PREFACE.

Geographical Description.—The territories comprising the Uganda Protectorate lie between the Belgian Congo, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya Colony and the country known until recently as German East Africa (now Tanganyika Territory). The Protectorate extends from 1° of south latitude to the northern limits of the navigable waters of the Victoria Nile at Nimule. It is flanked on the east by the natural boundaries of Lake Rudolf, the river Turkwel, Mount Elgon (14,200 ft.), and the Sio River running into the north-eastern waters of Lake Victoria, whilst the outstanding features on the western side are the Nile Watershed, Lake Albert, the River Semliki, the Ruwenzori range (16,794 ft.) and Lake Edward.

2. *Historical Survey.*—The first British explorers to visit the country were Speke and Burton during their search for the Nile in 1862. Samuel Baker discovered Lake Albert shortly afterwards. Stanley reached Buganda in 1875 and was greatly struck with the intelligence of the natives. As the result of his appeal the first band of missionaries arrived in June, 1877, followed two years later by a party of French Catholics. Both denominations quickly gained adherents, but on the accession of King Mwanga a systematic persecution of the Christians was inaugurated with the murder of Bishop Hannington in 1885. Mwanga was deposed by joint action of the Christians and Mahomedans in 1888 and fled to the Sese Islands in Lake Victoria. Religious antagonism soon revived and the Christians were compelled to leave the country. They returned in 1889, and after severely defeating the Mahomedans, restored Mwanga to his kingdom.

3. Negotiations between the British and German Governments during the following year definitely placed Uganda under British influence, and Captain (now Sir) Frederick Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., proceeded inland on behalf of the Imperial British East Africa Company, and, despite opposition from the French missionaries, obtained Mwanga's signature on the 26th December, 1890, to a treaty giving his own countrymen the right to intervene in the internal affairs of Buganda. This proved the signal for armed attacks from both Mahomedan and Catholic factions and resulted in fighting, in which the Sudanese levies, collected by Lugard to maintain his authority, with difficulty repulsed both their opponents' forces in detail. King Mwanga, who had sided with the French, escaped to German Territory at Bukoba.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 873.

He was persuaded ultimately to return, and an agreement was drawn up granting the Catholic and Mahomedan parties definite spheres of influence in Buganda. The position, however, proved unsatisfactory, and the British Government was forced by public opinion in England to assume direct control of affairs in 1894. Comparative quiet ensued for the next three years until Mwanga instigated a rebellion, which was defeated by the Sudanese force under the Acting Commissioner, Colonel Ternan. Mwanga once more fled the country, his infant son, Daudi Chwa, the present ruler, being proclaimed King or "Kabaka" at Kampala under the guidance of three Regents. Discontent soon afterwards arose amongst a section of the Sudanese force; Mwanga returned to join the mutineers, aided by Kabarega, the rebel king of the Banyoro. Fortunately, the Baganda remained loyal and the outbreak was quelled after a year's fighting, during which several British officers lost their lives. Mwanga and Kabarega were captured and deported. Since the early part of 1899, the country has been peaceful and British administration has spread over the neighbouring tribes. Control was extended over Busoga and Banyoro on the 3rd July, 1896, whilst arrangements for the inclusion of the other peoples within the existing frontiers were effected by Sir H. H. Johnston between the years 1900 and 1902. Agreements with the native Governments of Buganda, Toro, and Ankole were negotiated by the same Commissioner for the purpose of regulating the native administration and defining their relations with the suzerain power. It was found advisable to suspend the Ankole Agreement in 1905, after the local murder of the British Sub-Commissioner, but the subsequent loyalty of the natives justified the restoration of their privileges in 1912. Apart from this incident, the population has acquiesced in European rule and only unimportant disturbances have occurred in outlying districts. The opening of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa to Lake Victoria in the early years of this century and the subsequent installation of a steamer service on the Lake proved a valuable stimulus to development and has been largely responsible for the country's rapid progress in the twenty-five years of British administration.

4. *Administrative Divisions.*—The Protectorate was divided originally into six provinces, but, on the revised delimitation of the eastern boundary in 1903, these were reduced to five—Buganda, Eastern, Western, Northern, and Rudolf—of which the last-named is occupied at present by a military garrison, pending the introduction of civil government.

5. *Area and Vital Statistics.*—Until a survey of the country has been completed, it is not possible to furnish accurate statistics. The Protectorate covers an area of approximately 110,300 square miles, including 16,169 square miles of water. The population on the 31st March, 1920, was estimated to be 3,062,551, viz., 948 Europeans, 4,528 Asiatics and 3,057,075 native inhabitants.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

6. The year under review marks a period of successful recovery in many respects from the depression resulting from war conditions. Although there was little attempt at development in new directions enterprise proceeded successfully along existing channels of industry. With the gradual return to peace conditions the supply and distribution of man-power became normal again and native industry revived. Although there was no diminution in the prices of commodities, whether imported or otherwise, money circulated freely, especially during the cotton season. An impetus was given to trade by improved shipping facilities, although the increase of local rates which rose owing to the sterling value of the rupee imposed an additional burden on productive industry. Fortunately, prices of Uganda produce in the world's markets rose steadily throughout the year and compensated producers for various local difficulties. The total value of the exports for the year was £1,828,537, as compared with £956,595 in the previous year.

7. During the earlier part of the year weather conditions were generally unfavourable and famine relief had to be resorted to in many parts of the country, particularly in the Eastern Province. Efforts to increase the cultivation of native crops, which were made after the rains, met with a fair degree of success and in future will doubtless prove a valuable precautionary measure against the disastrous effects of drought. Difficulties due to weather conditions were aggravated by a recrudescence of influenza which resulted in a large number of deaths. It is estimated that 25,000 deaths during the year were attributable to this disease. The country again suffered severely from rinderpest and, in spite of satisfactory progress in combating the disease, a serious loss of stock was sustained.

8. With the removal of the demand for man-power for war purposes the potential supply of labour was largely increased. At the same time increased productivity generally and a successful cotton-crop, caused a considerable rise in the demand for labour of every description. The supply varied to a large extent in different districts. In the Western Province a sufficiency was forthcoming, though elsewhere, and in the Buganda Province especially, the necessary quota was at times difficult to obtain both for agricultural and other purposes. Owing to inflated prices and the extent of the demand for labour the rate of wages continued to rise.

9. Although the actual shortage of labour was not such as to occasion any sensible curtailment of industry and the difficulties of the situation were capable of being overcome by means of existing administrative machinery, it may be anticipated that the joint problems of labour supply and wages will tend to become increasingly intricate.

10. The large increase in the number of deaths recorded in the Buganda and adjacent districts is entirely due to influenza, and but for the incidence of this disease the number of births and deaths would have been approximately equal. The decrease in the birth-rate in these districts is nevertheless serious, and the necessity of remedial measures in the form of a special anti-venereal campaign has been recognized, and action in this direction has already been decided on. On the other hand, there was a welcome reduction in deaths due to the four principal endemic diseases, cerebro-spinal meningitis, sleeping-sickness, plague and small-pox. Arrangements are being made for the collection in the future of more accurate vital statistics from the remoter districts.

11. No changes of importance were made in the administrative system, and although the public service was still handicapped by shortage of staff, the general results achieved by the administration during the year were highly satisfactory.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

General Position.

12. For the fifth year in succession the actual Revenue collected exceeded the actual Expenditure and there was no need for a supplementary grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury. The subjoined table gives the final results for the last five financial years :—

	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18	1918-19	1919-20
Revenue	£287,025	£315,458	£326,366	£351,835	£495,549
Expenditure (Exclusive of Loan disbursements.)	285,072	289,308	285,389	323,692	465,118
Grant-in-Aid	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

13. Exclusive of Loan Funds and the unspent balance of the Cotton Development Fund, the excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1920, was £197,115 19s. 0d., as against the anticipated excess of £132,870, leaving a net surplus for the year 1919-20 of £64,245 19s. 0d. Owing to the change in conversion from Rs.15 to Fls.10 to the £, as from the 1st April, 1920, the ordinary Protectorate excess of assets over liabilities was increased to £279,267 19s. 11d.

Revenue.

14. Collections under this head totalled £495,549, making an increase of 40·8 per cent. on the total for the preceding twelve months.

Expenditure.

15. Ordinary expenditure (exclusive of Loan disbursements) amounted to £465,118, a reduction of £1,667 on the estimate and an increase of £141,426 on that for the preceding twelve months. The serious advance in the prices of all imported materials affected the expenses incurred by most departments, more especially the Public Works and the Transport Services. Owing to the alteration in the rate of War Bonus subsequent to the framing of the estimates, the payments on account of Civil Service War Bonuses were more than £70,000 in excess of the estimate.

Public Debt.

16. The total amount of advances received from Imperial Funds is £432,184, of which some £21,667 had been repaid on the 31st March, 1920, including interest charges of £1,728. Particulars relating to the various loans are shown in the following statistical table :—

Object of Loan.	Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Conditions for Payment.
Busoga Railway Construction ..	£170,000	3½%	1% sinking fund.
Kampala-Port Bell Railway ..	32,900	3½%	1½% " "
Improvements in Communications in the Eastern Province.	92,100	3½%	1½% " "
Advances from Imperial Loan for further improvement of Communications (£329,000).	5,160 132,024	4%	37 annuity payments of Principal and Interest combined with effect from 28th March, 1919.

At the close of the year the total expenditure under the last-named service was £34,816 leaving a balance unspent of £102,368.

Expenditure on loan services during the year was as under :—

Busoga Railway Construction ..	£391.
Improvements in Communication in the Eastern Province	£1,460.
Kampala-Port Bell Railway ..	£209.
Imperial Loans Ordinance (1915) ..	£25,670.

III.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

17. The Customs Department is amalgamated with that of Kenya Colony and no separate statistics of the import and transit trade are available in respect of this Protectorate. Figures relating to the exports of domestic produce are recorded, but as these commodities for the most part are shipped from Mombasa and are consigned to agents at that port no specific details can be given as to the direction of commerce with other countries. The combined statistics are dealt with in the annual report on Kenya Colony. Uganda receives a contribution of 33 per cent. of the actual gross collections by the Colony of Kenya on account of Import and Export Duties, Crane and Pier Dues, Transit, Re-export and Customs Administration Fees, etc. This arrangement is to be reconsidered in the year 1922. Direct trade with the adjoining territories, exclusive of re-exports and goods in transit, is of a minor character and confined to a few native products. The abnormal rate of exchange had an adverse effect on the development of trade between the Western Province and the Belgian Congo.

Cotton.

18. The total value of domestic produce amounted to £1,828,537, an increase of approximately 75 per cent. on the preceding twelve months. This satisfactory result is attributable to the general increase in production and the high prices obtaining in the world's markets. The cotton season was more successful than in the previous year. As in the past, this crop easily maintained its preponderance amongst Protectorate exports, and 130,464 cwts. of ginned cotton of the value of £1,209,663, representing 66·20 per cent. of the entire outward trade, were exported. Although the present market prices are beginning to make this crop of interest to European planters, cotton is grown almost exclusively by natives. Progress in the industry is reported from all parts of the Protectorate and the cultivation of this product is on the increase. The total acreage under cotton is estimated at approximately 163,850 acres, of which 162,350 acres are under native cultivation. The principal cotton area is in the Eastern Province, where it is estimated that 106,000 acres are under this crop.

19. Throughout the country the crop was readily sold at remunerative prices. Early in the year sales were delayed owing to lack of specie, but the delay had no prejudicial effect on the markets, and with the coincidence of the termination of the financial and calendar years which will take effect in the future, it is anticipated that the necessity for delaying the opening of the markets will be removed.

20. The quality of the output was satisfactory in the majority of areas, though in the Lango and Teso districts the product was impaired by disease. In general a high premium on Uganda

cotton was maintained in the world's markets. In India a considerable demand for this commodity continued to exist though, as in the past, the principal destination of exported cotton was England. In spite of somewhat improved shipping facilities and reduced rates of freightage the question of the disposal of cotton-seed again presented difficulties. Owing to the character of this commodity a low rate of freightage is essential to exporters, and in anticipation of a largely increased output in the future the question of forming a co-operative society for the purpose of dealing in a comprehensive manner with this product is at present under consideration by the local Ginners' Association. During the year 5,273 tons of cotton-seed were exported as compared with 1,662 in the previous year. In regard to arrangements for the sale and storage of the cotton crop satisfactory results were achieved and the establishment of licensed buying-centres, which it is proposed to make permanent in future, was fully justified.

21. Many new ginneries were erected and applications for the installation of new factories were frequent. There are now 58 cotton ginneries, of which 40 are in the Eastern Province and 18 in Buganda Province. It is interesting to record that, as in the preceding year, no unginned cotton was exported.

22. A tax of 4 cents per pound was imposed on all ginned cotton, and the proceeds, which realized Rs.472,269 up to the 1st January, 1920, will be utilized for the development of the industry generally. A large proportion of the proceeds will be devoted to improvements to roads. The tax has been reduced to 3 cents per pound on cotton produced on the 1919 sowing and this rate has been fixed for a period of three years. As a result of seed distribution on a very large scale which is conducted free of charge by the Government, an increase of from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. in production for next season is confidently expected.

Coffee.

23. Coffee ranks second amongst the domestic products and maintains its position as the principal crop on European plantations. 58,960 cwts. of this product were exported during the year, representing a value of £161,714, or nearly 9 per cent. of the Protectorate's outward trade. This percentage is slightly in excess of that of the preceding twelve months. The variety chiefly concerned is "*Coffea Arabica*" with which the European-owned estates are planted, the indigenous species being mainly confined to native plantations and reserved for local consumption. Approximately 25,000 acres are under the former crop while it is estimated that the acreage under the latter amounts to rather less than 13,000 acres. In the more humid districts the older coffee plantations are largely interplanted with Para rubber and the coffee is being gradually superseded by the latter product. In the drier areas the crop suffered from insect pests but the quality of the coffee was satisfactory. The current rate of exchange

proved an adverse factor from the point of view of exporters, but with the improvement of shipping facilities, the condition of the market and the high demand, the necessity of affording financial assistance to cultivators of coffee had ceased to exist some time before the close of the year under review and it was found possible to dispense with the services of the Coffee Advances Committee which had previously been constituted for this purpose through the medium of the Government.

Rubber.

24. Para rubber is advancing in importance among the products of the Protectorate and exports of this commodity are on a continually increasing scale. Rubber has already become the main crop on a number of European plantations, and the acreage under cultivation, which in the majority of instances is interplanted with coffee, is being gradually expanded and is now estimated at approximately 20,000 acres. The output during the last twelve months was considerable and amounted to 388,523 lb., representing a total value of £25,902, in spite of low prices obtaining. Experiments on an extensive scale were made in the various systems of tapping, and valuable results obtained, while large quantities of seeds and plants were issued during the year from the Government plantations. The rubber crop suffers little from insect pests, but in certain areas it has been found that the trees are liable to bark disease.

25. Little progress was made in the cultivation of cocoa. In spite of a total planted area of nearly 4,000 acres, exports amounted to 660 cwts. only, at a value of £1,231. This crop can hardly be considered a remunerative investment and in many instances areas under cultivation have been allowed to revert to bush or planted with other crops. New areas have been planted with native crops on an extensive scale and the cultivation of sugar cane shows considerable promise, though, owing to the lack of a market for this product, the area at present devoted to its cultivation is small.

26. There is ample scope for the extensive production of various oilseeds, particularly ground-nuts and sim-sim. The latter product is exported in small quantities. Only 23,384 cwts. were exported during the last twelve months, representing less than 2 per cent. of the total exports of the Protectorate. The principal advantage of these crops lies in their utility as rotation crops on cotton plantations and their value as an additional asset to the local food supply.

27. The country shows promise of flax production, particularly in the Toro district. The cultivation of this cereal, though at present in an experimental stage, has attracted the attention of the Empire Flax Growing Committee, and specimens of the variety grown and prepared on the Government plantation at Kampala have been sent to England for examination. There are five

Government plantations in various parts of the Protectorate, which, besides encouraging increased cultivation by the distribution of seeds and plants, have achieved valuable results both in experimenting with promising crops and popularizing ideas of scientific cultivation. Agriculture has already benefited considerably by the introduction of a number of ploughing schools, and in several districts the popularity of the plough among native cultivators is conspicuously on the increase.

28. *Veterinary*.—During recent years disease has occasioned serious casualties in the large herds of native cattle which comprise one of the most valuable assets of the Protectorate. The year under review was no exception in this respect. Rinderpest, which is endemic in the Eastern and certain districts of the Northern Provinces and had caused a very high mortality in Buganda during the previous year, spread to the Western Province where by the spring of 1919 the disease had seriously affected the rich cattle districts of Toro and Ankole. Sporadic outbreaks of the disease occurred throughout the year in the majority of cattle districts.

29. The difficulties of coping with the progress of this disease were further aggravated by continued depletion of the Veterinary Staff and by the appearance of a serious outbreak of pleuropneumonia in the Eastern Province at a time when all the available personnel was employed in combating the spread of rinderpest in the Western Province. In spite of these difficulties both diseases, though causing serious casualties, were kept under control. All movement of cattle was stopped in areas infected by the former disease and during the year no fewer than 39,203 cattle were inoculated with anti-rinderpest serum and virulent blood from strains collected locally. It was anticipated that these measures would be met with serious opposition on the part of the natives but the tactful treatment of local superstitions, a carefully conducted propaganda, and the efforts of the native chiefs, who deserve great credit for their loyalty and enlightenment, combined to produce a most beneficial effect.

30. Heavy casualties from trypanosomiasis occurred amongst the herds inoculated against rinderpest and the disease was encountered at different times in a large number of cattle areas. A single outbreak of both anthrax and foot-and-mouth disease was reported, but no case of tuberculosis came under observation during the year.

Forestry.

31. The attention of the Government Forestry Department has been occupied mainly in the up-keep of fuel reserves to meet the requirements of the Busoga Railway, the Lake Steamers, and the larger townships, and in maintaining a supply of timber for Government purposes, but it is anticipated that with further

facilities for exploitation and development, the forests of Uganda would become a source of considerable revenue. The timber supply is derived from the Minziro Forest, near the Tanganyika boundary, the Nambegiruwa Forest, near Entebbe, and the Budongo Forest in Bunyoro. In the Minziro Forest, which contains a considerable quantity of valuable timber, the transport difficulty is being overcome by laying a steel 60 centimetre line. $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles of rail and sleepers have been transported from Nairobi to connect the Kagera River with the Forest.

32. In the Budongo Forest, in addition to the rubber tapping operations, "lumber works" were commenced with hand saws, etc. During the year two consignments of *funtumia* rubber amounting to 5,488 lb. were despatched to England, but the work was retarded by the lack of labour.

33. The total of trees planted during the year was 965,000, the majority of which were *nsambya* and *eucalyptus*—"fuel" trees.

Land.

34. The total area of the Protectorate is approximately 110,300 square miles, 16,169 square miles of which are water. This total includes the Rudolf Province, 14,138 square miles, the greater part of which is of little use for agricultural purposes. Cultivated land is estimated at 2,891,777 acres; uncultivated land at 36,810,043 acres.

35. As the result of agreements concluded early in the history of the Protectorate, extensive areas of land, amounting to 9,620 square miles, have been granted or guaranteed as freehold to the natives. The total area within which all native-owned land has been surveyed is about 6,865 square miles. This is entirely in the Buganda Province. The additional areas to be reserved for native occupation in agreement and non-agreement districts have not yet been determined.

36. The grant of freehold by the Crown is suspended for the present, but leases up to 99 years are granted in respect of areas not exceeding ordinarily 1,000 acres for each applicant. During each of the first three years a lessee must place one-tenth of his holding under cultivation. The usual rentals are from 5*d.* to 8*d.* per acre per annum for the first 33 years of the lease. Rents are revisable at the 34th and 67th years. For the year 1920 the average annual rental was $5\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per acre. Lease is by private treaty, *i.e.*, there is no auction.

37. Natives owning freehold land were formerly permitted to transfer a portion of their allotments, not exceeding half of the holding in each case, to the Crown for alienation to non-natives, subject to the consent of the Native Council and the Governor. The practice was for the purchaser to pay to the native owner the full purchase price previously arranged between buyer and seller, whereupon the land was transferred to the

Governor and became Crown Land. A lease qualifying for freehold was then given to the lessee. In this manner 55,551 acres of native land were transferred from the 1st April, 1911, to the 31st March, 1920. The sale of native land to non-natives is now prohibited by direction of the Secretary of State. Native owners are still permitted to lease land to non-natives, subject to the approval of the Governor.

38. The average price of native land transferred to non-natives during the year under review was 15s. 3d. per acre, as compared with 10s. 10d. per acre for 1918-19. The average price of Crown Lands sold during the same periods was 7s. 8d. per acre, and 8s. per acre. The total sum paid as rent for Crown Lands during the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1920, was £9,685.

39. The total area of arable land alienated to Europeans is 188 square miles, of which 109 square miles were granted as freehold and 79 as leasehold. This does not include land in townships nor the area granted to Missions. The latter (which is almost entirely freehold) amounts to approximately 119 square miles.

40. The following areas are believed to be available for alienation to Europeans, though definite information cannot be given until the question of the areas to be reserved for native occupation has been finally settled.

In Buganda, 1,645 square miles (surveyed, of which possibly 75 per cent. is suitable for agriculture or grazing).

In the Eastern Province, 650 square miles (unsurveyed).

„	Northern	„	250	„	„	„
„	Western	„	200	„	„	„

The total area leased as forest land on the 31st March, 1920, was 143 square miles, 634 acres.

41. In townships leases for periods of either 49 or 99 years are granted. All leases of township plots carry with them an obligation to erect on the plot leased within a specified period, varying from one to three years, a building of a definite value. The standard size of a township plot for European trading purposes is 10,000 square feet. According to the importance of the township and the length of the lease, the rental for a plot of standard size varies from £2 to £9; the building covenant from £100 to £400. For a residential plot the standard size is one acre, and the rentals and building covenants are the same as those for a trading plot.

All land leased must be surveyed and fees paid by the lessee. The average cost of survey is about 1s. per acre for agricultural land. A fixed fee of £3 is charged for township plots.

Banks.

42. Banking facilities are afforded by the National Bank of India, Ltd. (branches at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja), and by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd. (branches at Kampala and Jinja).

IV.—LEGISLATION.

43. During the year under review the revision of the judicial system of the Protectorate was finally completed and legislation was introduced for the purpose of amending and consolidating previous measures relating to the constitution of the Courts. In addition to the High Court, four classes of courts, including native courts, were established and a further Ordinance was at the same time enacted for the purpose of defining the procedure to be applied in conducting criminal proceedings.

44. In addition to the constitution of native courts as defined by the Courts Ordinance, an Ordinance was enacted conferring increased administrative powers on Native Chiefs in the interests of public order. Provision was also made for the constitution of Native Councils which shall have power, by resolution, to alter Native Law and to fix penalties for breaches of Native Law, subject to the Governor's approval of any resolution being first obtained.

V.—EDUCATION.

45. There are no schools for European or Asiatic children in Uganda and native educative work is undertaken mainly by the Missionary Societies working in the Protectorate. In recognition of their work the Government grants annual subsidies to the Church Missionary Society (Anglican), the White Fathers of Algeria, the Mill Hill Mission and the Verona Mission (Roman Catholic). The amount granted during the year 1920 was £3,025, distributed as follows :—

£1,750 to the Church Missionary Society,
£950 to the White Fathers,
£300 to the Mill Hill Mission, and
£25 to the Verona Mission.

The Missions have organized hundreds of elementary schools under the control of native teachers, trained in their own head-quarter institutions and subject to periodical European inspection. More advanced courses of study are arranged in the district centres under white supervision. The Missions have also established several secondary schools for higher tuition and

seminary training amongst the more intelligent elements of the native population. Technical instruction is afforded at most of the principal stations. Carpentry, masonry, brick-making, boot-making, printing, tanning, agriculture, wheelwrighting, and smithying are the principal subjects taught to the boys, whilst the girls learn sewing, embroidery, lace-making, and cotton spinning. If the boys show special aptitude at the artizan school they undergo a three or four years' apprenticeship in their particular branch of study and are usually found a post when their training is completed.

46. The Medical School attached to the Church Missionary Society's hospital, Namirembe, is now well established and fulfils a valuable function in training native dressers and dispensers. The maternity and infant welfare centre for the benefit of native women, which was opened recently, should prove of considerable value in combating the serious problem of a decreasing birth-rate.

47. The Baganda exhibit a natural bent towards mechanical work, and a large number, after training with the Transport Department, are employed as motor drivers or in charge of machinery on estates. Under instructions from Indian artizans promising natives become quite efficient carpenters and masons, and it is proposed to extend this scheme by establishing a Government technical institution with the object of training natives for employment in the Medical, Transport, Agricultural, Survey, and Public Works Departments.

48. These industrial pursuits form an excellent antidote to the conception entertained by the educated native that manual work is derogatory to his status. Skilled labour of every kind is required by the community, and, though clerks and interpreters are in constant demand by both Government offices and commercial firms, it is important not to neglect the development of other talents and interests.

The following figures of attendance have been supplied by the Missions for the year under review :—

				Attendance.	
				Boys.	Girls.
Church Missionary Society—					
Village and High Schools	..	..	..	43,328	32,394
Secondary Schools	..	..	..	500	82
White Fathers' Mission—					
Village and High School	..	..	..	9,459	7,503
Secondary and Industrial Schools	..	..	..	301	24
Mill Hill Mission—					
Village and High Schools	..	..	..	12,075	5,010
Secondary Industrial Schools	..	..	..	113	—
Verona Mission—					
Village Schools	..	..	..	4,888	289
Industrial Schools	..	..	..	25	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				70,689	45,302
				<hr/>	<hr/>

VI.—CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY.

49. The climate of the Protectorate as a whole, though pleasant, cannot be considered healthy for Europeans, but the recent notoriety due to the ravages of sleeping-sickness can now be safely neglected. For a family man the country possesses distinct disadvantages: European children as a rule thrive in infancy, but considerable risk is attached to bringing them out when they are over two or three years old, as they are liable to attacks of malaria and the resultant anæmia. The health of adults depends mainly on their mode of life, and with care constitutional health should not be impaired, but if physical fitness is maintained the altitude and proximity to the Equator combine to produce nervous strain after prolonged residence. Outdoor manual labour is dangerous for Europeans, and on plantations a manager's or owner's duties are for the most part supervisory. With the exceptions noted below the temperature is moderate and varies but slightly throughout the year.

50. The mean maximum temperature for most districts averages 80° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 60° Fahrenheit. On the Ruwenzori range there is extreme cold with perpetual snow, and it is also cold on the higher slopes of Mount Elgon. In the Nile Valley, near Lake Albert, on the other hand, the mean maximum temperature is 90° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 74° Fahrenheit. The favourite localities for European plantations are the Buganda Province (particularly the Mengo and Mubendi districts), the Toro district of the Western Province and the Bunyoro district of the Northern Province. There are a few estates in Busoga (Eastern Province), but this area is not so popular. Statistics taken at Entebbe, the seat of Government, give the following results:—

Average rainfall for the last 20 years, 58·74 inches.

Average temperature for the last 16 years, Maximum, 78·5° F.; Minimum, 62·8° F.

Mean daily sunshine, 5 hours, 27 minutes.

The rainfall at Entebbe during the year 1919 amounted to 60·40 inches, distributed over 156 days.

Records observed at 50 stations throughout the Protectorate register the lowest rainfall at Agu in the Eastern Province. The highest rainfall 76·25 inches occurred at Gulu in the Northern Province.

51. Two main rainy periods are anticipated annually. The first, the "long" rains usually begin in March and may continue through June. The second, or "short" rains, in September and extend through October and occasionally November. Generally speaking, both seasons are experienced throughout the Protectorate. Much of the rain falls during the night or early morning and seldom continues throughout the day. Violent thunderstorms and heavy showers occur frequently in the day time, but these are only of local incidence.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways and Steamer Services.

52. There are two short lines of railway in the Protectorate, both metre gauge. The first connects Kampala with its nearest port on Lake Victoria, Port Bell, 7 miles distant. The other line, the Busoga Railway, links Lake Victoria and the navigable reaches of the Victoria Nile, where the river opens out into Lakes Kioga and Kwania. This railway is 62 miles in length and runs from Jinja pier, near the source of the Nile, to Namasagali, the headquarters of the Busoga Railway Marine. The fleet of the last-named service consists of two stern-wheel vessels of 100 and 50 tons cargo capacity respectively, with limited passenger accommodation, a launch of five tons cargo capacity and a number of lighters, punts and dredgers, all the property of the Administration. Weekly communication is provided with Masindi Port and various other ports on the shores of Lakes Kioga and Kwania, where channels afford access through the beds of floating " sudd " which hamper navigation in these waters.

Since January, 1920, a weekly service has been run from Namasagali direct to Masindi, returning one week via Bugondo and on the alternate week running in the reverse direction.

Owing to the large drop in the water-level it was found impossible to keep the Sambwe-Agu canal open.

Kamdini has been selected as the new port for Gulu, being more convenient than the old port of Atura, but a survey of the river is to be made before communication can be opened. Both railways and the Busoga Marine are managed by the Uganda Railway Administration on behalf of the Government, and it has not been possible for revenue earnings to cover running expenses and the interest on the loan advances for the construction of the lines. The position was aggravated this year by the enhanced prices of all materials and stores. There is a small Government steamer service on Lake Albert with headquarters at Butiaba, affording regular communication with the north-eastern confines of the Belgian Congo at Mahagi and Kasenyi and with the Nile ports as far north as the Sudan frontier post at Nimule.

Motor Transport.

53. The Government Transport Department controls twelve vans, but many of these were out of commission for varying periods throughout the year awaiting the arrival of spare parts from England. 5091 tons of cargo were handled by this Department, a decrease of 1,048 tons compared with that carried in 1918-19. Of this total amount 1,689 tons were carried by motor van, and 1,452 tons by carts, 1,279 tons were entrusted to porters, while the balance, 671 tons, was carried by contractors.

None of the new vans ordered had arrived at the end of the year, and the present vans are getting worn out and more time is required for overhauling and repairs. In spite of this, there is an increase in the mileage run of 1,254 miles over that covered in 1918-19, whilst in spite of the increased cost of all materials, including oil, the working costs have been reduced by five cents a mile. There is also a reduction in receipts of 3 cents a mile but it is considered that the estimated revenue would have been reached if the lorries on order had been running.

The transport staff has also been handicapped by sickness among the more recently appointed members. Private motor lorries supplemented the Government service on the Kampala-Fort Portal route and also travelled between Jinja and Mbale when not handicapped by lack of tyres. The Belgian Government ran lorries between Butiaba and Masindi Port in connection with their Congo traffic. The excellency of the roads warrants extensive use of motor transport, and many private cars and bicycles are now in evidence. The American Ford Box or Touring Car is a favourite pattern which has proved its suitability to local conditions. It is particularly useful to planters on up-country estates and to residents in the larger stations. The more expensive and better finished English types of car are not so popular or useful in tropical Africa.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

54. With the exception of Lira, the headquarters of the Lango district in the Eastern Province, and Gulu, Chua and Arua, the outlying stations of the Northern Province, all administrative centres are connected by telegraph. The total mileage of telegraph pole route is 1,225, consisting of 493·5 miles of iron and 741·5 miles of wood pole line. The total mileage of wire is 1,546 miles. There are 24 telegraph stations and 29 maintenance stations. Telephone exchanges for the use of the public are open at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja.

Roads.

55. Some 28 miles of new motor roads were constructed during the year. On the Kampala—Fort Portal road 9·6 miles of new road were completed, the road being opened for motor-van traffic as far as mile 174 on 1st November, 1919. The road construction in the Eastern Province has been confined to roads necessary for the development of the cotton industry. Widening of all main roads to 24 feet standard breadth is being proceeded with. Maintenance work has increased as the result of motor traffic and monopolized most of the labour supply obtained by the Public Works Department throughout the year.

There are now approximately 600 miles of excellent roads fit for motors in all weathers, about 800 miles of road suitable for light motors or carts in the dry season and probably another thousand miles of good native tracks.

APPENDIX.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE UGANDA
PROTECTORATE.

Annual Reports on the Protectorate. (Price varying from 1*d.* upwards.) Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Annual Blue Books, 1918-19 and previous years. Obtainable from the Government Printer, Entebbe. Price Fls. 8-13; including postage.

Handbook of Uganda, 2nd Edition. Published by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1. Price 7*s.* 6*d.*

"General Information as to the Uganda Protectorate." Emigration Handbook, published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Price 6*d.*

Reports of the Agricultural, Forestry, Medical, Public Works, and Land and Survey Departments are printed annually and distributed gratis on application to the Chief Secretary, Entebbe.

"Correspondence relating to the Manufacture of Paper from Elephant Grass" (1919). Pamphlet can be obtained free of cost from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1.

Departmental Leaflets ;—

"Crown Land Regulations" and "Purchase of native land by non-natives" can be obtained free of cost from the Land Office, Entebbe.

"Coffee Leaf Disease" (1914), "Cotton Cultivation" (1914), "Diseases of Rubber in Uganda" (1919), can be obtained free of cost from the Department of Agriculture, Kampala.

Copies of local publications, except the departmental leaflets, are sent to the Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.; and the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, London, S.W.7.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1043	Grenada	1919
1044	Bermuda	"
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands... ..	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda... ..	1920
1078	Grenada	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

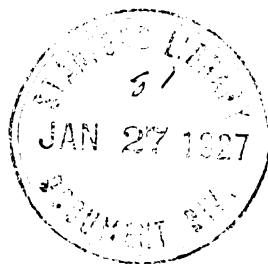
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1080.

FIJI.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1047.)



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ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.*

REVENUE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £88,753, or £73,321 in excess of the estimate of 1919. This is the almost entirely the result of the increase in Customs receipts: as against the estimate of 1919 there was a balance of £15,844 under the heads of Customs Duty and the Tax on Motor Cars showed but slight increase.

The Expenditure for 1920 was £111,944, or £123,191 more than the estimate of 1919. The main causes for this large excess were the cost of construction of Indian immigrants, the cost of the cost of the services due to the rise in prices since the beginning of the Estimate, the industrial strike among the Indians and the cost of the imported by Government and sold at concessive prices. As a result the excess of Assets over Liabilities was reduced in the 31st December, 1920, to £19,040.

As compared with the previous year, the total revenue and expenditure were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1919	£115,822	£440,232
1920	£88,753	£611,944

The greater part of the Colony's surplus balances is invested in Fiy and the nominal amount of stock held on 31st December was being £118,142. In addition certain deposits made by or on behalf of natives through the Native Secretariat, are also invested in stock at the nominal value of £8,248.

On 31st December last the whole of the £150,000 debentures issued in 1899 had been repaid, but on 8th July, 1920, a fresh loan for £150,000 bearing interest at 5½ per cent. was floated, under Ordinance No. 8 of 1920, for the purpose of carrying out certain Public Works.

In addition to this amount of £150,000 the Colony has received from the Imperial Government an advance of £200,000 against a loan to be raised to meet a part of the cost of the Suva Harbour Works and Drainage Works. Of this sum the Suva Municipal Council is liable for £39,788 3s. 2d., being the cost of the drainage works. The public debt of the Colony amounted therefore to £310,211 16s. 10d.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 848. (Cd.7622-39.)

The currency and coin in circulation are English sterling. The two private banks established in the Colony—the Bank of New Zealand and the Bank of New South Wales—have, temporarily, a private note issue, and the value of notes in circulation on 31st December, 1920, amounted to £39,818. The issue will probably be withdrawn very shortly. The Government Currency Notes in circulation at the close of the year amounted to £372,868, as compared with £149,868 at the end of the year 1919.

As against the Government Note Issue the Commissioners of Currency held on 31st December, 1920, £80,967 in gold and stock to the nominal value of £224,309. An amount of £101,250 was in transit for, or awaiting, investment on the last day of the year.

During the year under review an additional branch of the Government Savings Bank was opened at Ba. There are now twelve branches of this institution, having, in all, 1913 accounts amounting to £41,586 as against £26,851 at the close of the previous year. The total amount deposited during the year was £44,959, exceeding deposits in 1919 by £19,604.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during each of the years 1919 and 1920.

Name of Import.	1919.	1920.
	£	£
Bags and sacks	21,059	77,046
Boots and shoes	8,421	13,141
Biscuits, flour, sharps and pollard ..	107,485	133,484
Butter and ghee	25,638	19,667
Coal	38,939	44,478
Drapery	199,809	319,801
Drugs	8,712	10,648
Fish	13,553	28,686
Galvanised iron and manufactures ..	15,955	27,277
Hardware	43,358	65,030
Live-stock	8,521	14,164
Machinery	39,953	72,242
Manure	19,146	36,840
Meats	19,856	34,232
Oils	45,994	79,264
Rice	36,608	32,012
Soap	4,261	7,283
Spirits	17,637	31,599
Stationery	12,772	15,550
Timber	18,721	77,231
Tobacco (excluding cigars and cigarettes)	17,914	37,254
Vegetables and fruit (preserved and green)	21,460	26,537

The principal items of export continue to be sugar, copra, and bananas, the quantities and values of these products exported during each of the last two years being as follows :—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
1919 ..	64,348	1,014,240	27,311	674,215	76,563
1920 ..	72,985	2,092,990	14,666	508,830	95,315

The number of bunches of bananas exported, the values of which are shown in the foregoing statement, was as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Bunches.</i>
1919	612,795
1920	759,830

Other principal domestic exports were as follows :—

	1919.		1920.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		<i>£</i>		<i>£</i>
Maize	9,822 bush.	1,841	42,732 bush.	11,499
Bêche de mer ..	420 cwt.	2,121	2,329 cwt.	17,545
Trocas shell ..	417 tons	20,764	360 tons	28,244
Rubber	1,395 cwt.	13,867	1,319 cwt.	16,939
Molasses	7,812 tons	7,812	12,699 tons	12,713

The total imports and exports for each of the past two years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total trade.
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
1919	1,060,314	1,871,062	2,931,376
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The amount of Customs duties levied during each of the past two years was as follows :—

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77·19 per cent. of the total trade of the Colony during 1920 was with British Possessions, chiefly Australia, New Zealand, and Canada.

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The total trade of the Colony with the United Kingdom decreased from 7·77 per cent. in 1919 to 5·78 per cent. in 1920, that with British Possessions increased from 65·99 per cent. in 1919 to 77·19 per cent. in 1920, and that with foreign countries fell from 25·62 per cent. in 1919 to 16·68 per cent. in 1920.

Although there is a falling-off of exports to the United Kingdom as compared with 1919, there is, on the other hand, an increase in the value of imports from there.

AGRICULTURAL.

Sugar.

Although the quantity of raw sugar exported during 1920 exceeds the average quantity exported during the ten previous years, it does not equal the quantity exported during 1917 by 24,349 tons. The value has, however, considerably increased. The future prospects of this industry depend upon labour conditions, which are at present very unsettled.

Coconuts.

The coconut industry continues to flourish and the price of copra remained high throughout the year. Every year fresh land is brought under cultivation, and with continued freedom from pests, the industry, which requires the minimum of labour, is attracting increasing numbers of settlers to the Colony.

The export of copra is the second largest of the Colony. Although there was a decrease during the year of 12,645 tons as compared with the record year 1919, this decrease would not have been so marked had not the figures for 1919 been swollen by the large stocks carried over from the previous year in local stores. The actual production of the Colony during 1919 was probably about 23,000 tons.

VI.—CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY.

49. The climate of the Protectorate as a whole, though pleasant, cannot be considered healthy for Europeans, but the recent notoriety due to the ravages of sleeping-sickness can now be safely neglected. For a family man the country possesses distinct disadvantages: European children as a rule thrive in infancy, but considerable risk is attached to bringing them out when they are over two or three years old, as they are liable to attacks of malaria and the resultant anæmia. The health of adults depends mainly on their mode of life, and with care constitutional health should not be impaired, but if physical fitness is maintained the altitude and proximity to the Equator combine to produce nervous strain after prolonged residence. Outdoor manual labour is dangerous for Europeans, and on plantations a manager's or owner's duties are for the most part supervisory. With the exceptions noted below the temperature is moderate and varies but slightly throughout the year.

50. The mean maximum temperature for most districts averages 80° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 60° Fahrenheit. On the Ruwenzori range there is extreme cold with perpetual snow, and it is also cold on the higher slopes of Mount Elgon. In the Nile Valley, near Lake Albert, on the other hand, the mean maximum temperature is 90° Fahrenheit and the mean minimum 74° Fahrenheit. The favourite localities for European plantations are the Buganda Province (particularly the Mengo and Mubendi districts), the Toro district of the Western Province and the Bunyoro district of the Northern Province. There are a few estates in Busoga (Eastern Province), but this area is not so popular. Statistics taken at Entebbe, the seat of Government, give the following results:—

Average rainfall for the last 20 years, 58·74 inches.

Average temperature for the last 16 years, Maximum, 78·5°F.; Minimum, 62·8° F.

Mean daily sunshine, 5 hours, 27 minutes.

The rainfall at Entebbe during the year 1919 amounted to 60·40 inches, distributed over 156 days.

Records observed at 50 stations throughout the Protectorate register the lowest rainfall at Agu in the Eastern Province. The highest rainfall 76·25 inches occurred at Gulu in the Northern Province.

51. Two main rainy periods are anticipated annually. The first, the "long" rains usually begin in March and may continue through June. The second, or "short" rains, in September and extend through October and occasionally November. Generally speaking, both seasons are experienced throughout the Protectorate. Much of the rain falls during the night or early morning and seldom continues throughout the day. Violent thunderstorms and heavy showers occur frequently in the day time, but these are only of local incidence.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways and Steamer Services.

52. There are two short lines of railway in the Protectorate, both metre gauge. The first connects Kampala with its nearest port on Lake Victoria, Port Bell, 7 miles distant. The other line, the Busoga Railway, links Lake Victoria and the navigable reaches of the Victoria Nile, where the river opens out into Lakes Kioga and Kwania. This railway is 62 miles in length and runs from Jinja pier, near the source of the Nile, to Namasagali, the headquarters of the Busoga Railway Marine. The fleet of the last-named service consists of two stern-wheel vessels of 100 and 50 tons cargo capacity respectively, with limited passenger accommodation, a launch of five tons cargo capacity and a number of lighters, punts and dredgers, all the property of the Administration. Weekly communication is provided with Masindi Port and various other ports on the shores of Lakes Kioga and Kwania, where channels afford access through the beds of floating "sudd" which hamper navigation in these waters.

Since January, 1920, a weekly service has been run from Namasagali direct to Masindi, returning one week via Bugondo and on the alternate week running in the reverse direction.

Owing to the large drop in the water-level it was found impossible to keep the Sambwe-Agu canal open.

Kamdini has been selected as the new port for Gulu, being more convenient than the old port of Atura, but a survey of the river is to be made before communication can be opened. Both railways and the Busoga Marine are managed by the Uganda Railway Administration on behalf of the Government, and it has not been possible for revenue earnings to cover running expenses and the interest on the loan advances for the construction of the lines. The position was aggravated this year by the enhanced prices of all materials and stores. There is a small Government steamer service on Lake Albert with headquarters at Butiaba, affording regular communication with the north-eastern confines of the Belgian Congo at Mahagi and Kasenyi and with the Nile ports as far north as the Sudan frontier post at Nimule.

Motor Transport.

53. The Government Transport Department controls twelve vans, but many of these were out of commission for varying periods throughout the year awaiting the arrival of spare parts from England. 5091 tons of cargo were handled by this Department, a decrease of 1,048 tons compared with that carried in 1918-19. Of this total amount 1,689 tons were carried by motor van, and 1,452 tons by carts, 1,279 tons were entrusted to porters, while the balance, 671 tons, was carried by contractors.

None of the new vans ordered had arrived at the end of the year, and the present vans are getting worn out and more time is required for overhauling and repairs. In spite of this, there is an increase in the mileage run of 1,254 miles over that covered in 1918-19, whilst in spite of the increased cost of all materials, including oil, the working costs have been reduced by five cents a mile. There is also a reduction in receipts of 3 cents a mile but it is considered that the estimated revenue would have been reached if the lorries on order had been running.

The transport staff has also been handicapped by sickness among the more recently appointed members. Private motor lorries supplemented the Government service on the Kampala-Fort Portal route and also travelled between Jinja and Mbale when not handicapped by lack of tyres. The Belgian Government ran lorries between Butiaba and Masindi Port in connection with their Congo traffic. The excellency of the roads warrants extensive use of motor transport, and many private cars and bicycles are now in evidence. The American Ford Box or Touring Car is a favourite pattern which has proved its suitability to local conditions. It is particularly useful to planters on up-country estates and to residents in the larger stations. The more expensive and better finished English types of car are not so popular or useful in tropical Africa.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

54. With the exception of Lira, the headquarters of the Lango district in the Eastern Province, and Gulu, Chua and Arua, the outlying stations of the Northern Province, all administrative centres are connected by telegraph. The total mileage of telegraph pole route is 1,225, consisting of 493·5 miles of iron and 741·5 miles of wood pole line. The total mileage of wire is 1,546 miles. There are 24 telegraph stations and 29 maintenance stations. Telephone exchanges for the use of the public are open at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja.

Roads.

55. Some 28 miles of new motor roads were constructed during the year. On the Kampala—Fort Portal road 9·6 miles of new road were completed, the road being opened for motor-van traffic as far as mile 174 on 1st November, 1919. The road construction in the Eastern Province has been confined to roads necessary for the development of the cotton industry. Widening of all main roads to 24 feet standard breadth is being proceeded with. Maintenance work has increased as the result of motor traffic and monopolized most of the labour supply obtained by the Public Works Department throughout the year.

There are now approximately 600 miles of excellent roads fit for motors in all weathers, about 800 miles of road suitable for light motors or carts in the dry season and probably another thousand miles of good native tracks.

APPENDIX.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE UGANDA
PROTECTORATE.

Annual Reports on the Protectorate. (Price varying from 1*d.* upwards.) Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Annual Blue Books, 1918-19 and previous years. Obtainable from the Government Printer, Entebbe. Price Fls. 8-13, including postage.

Handbook of Uganda, 2nd Edition. Published by the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1. Price 7*s.* 6*d.*

"General Information as to the Uganda Protectorate." Emigration Handbook, published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Price 6*d.*

Reports of the Agricultural, Forestry, Medical, Public Works, and Land and Survey Departments are printed annually and distributed gratis on application to the Chief Secretary, Entebbe.

"Correspondence relating to the Manufacture of Paper from Elephant Grass" (1919). Pamphlet can be obtained free of cost from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1.

Departmental Leaflets ;—

"Crown Land Regulations" and "Purchase of native land by non-natives" can be obtained free of cost from the Land Office, Entebbe.

"Coffee Leaf Disease" (1914), "Cotton Cultivation" (1914), "Diseases of Rubber in Uganda" (1919), can be obtained free of cost from the Department of Agriculture, Kampala.

Copies of local publications, except the departmental leaflets, are sent to the Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.; and the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, London, S.W.7.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1043	Grenada	1919
1044	Bermuda	1919-1920
1045	Basutoland	"
1046	Cyprus	1919
1047	Fiji	"
1048	Straits Settlements	1919-1920
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	1919
1052	Zanzibar	"
1053	Gambia	1918-1919
1054	Uganda	1919-1920
1055	Malta	"
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1919
1058	Ashanti	1919-1920
1059	Bahamas	"
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	1919-1920
1067	Jamaica	1919
1068	British Guiana	"
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	1919-1920
1072	Barbados	1918-1919
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1919-1920
1074	Leeward Islands... ..	"
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	1920
1077	Bermuda... ..	"
1078	Grenada	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

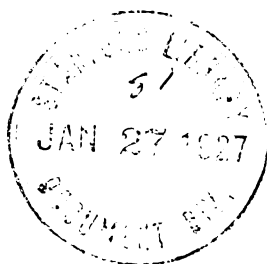
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1080.

F I J I.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1047.)



LONDON:

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1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
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No. 1080.

F I J I .

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.*

I.—FINANCIAL.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £488,753, or £73,321 in excess of the revenue for 1919. This is due almost entirely to the big increase of £87,128 in Customs receipts; as against this, however, there was a falling-off of £16,899 under the heads of Stamp Duty and Hut Tax. Other sources showed but slight variation.

The Expenditure amounted to £611,944, or £123,191 more than the revenue received. The main causes for this large excess were the cost of repatriation of Indian immigrants, the increased cost of public services due to the rise in prices since the framing of the Estimates, the industrial strike among the Indians, and the loss on rice imported by Government and sold at pre-war prices. As a result, the excess of Assets over Liabilities was reduced on the 31st December, 1920, to £19,040.

As compared with the previous year, the total revenue and expenditure were as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
1919	£415,432 ..	£440,232
1920	£488,753 ..	£611,944

The greater part of the Colony's surplus balances is invested in England, the nominal amount of stock held on 31st December last being £118,242. In addition, certain deposits made by or on behalf of natives, through the Native Secretariat, are also invested in stock of the nominal value of £8,248.

On 31st December last the whole of the £150,000 debentures issued in 1880 had been repaid, but on 8th July, 1920, a fresh loan for £150,000, bearing interest at 5½ per cent. was floated, under Ordinance No. 8 of 1920, for the purpose of carrying out certain Public Works.

In addition to this amount of £150,000 the Colony has received from the Imperial Government an advance of £200,000 against a loan to be raised to meet a part of the cost of the Suva Harbour Works and Drainage Works. Of this sum the Suva Municipal Council is liable for £39,788 3s. 2d., being the cost of the drainage works. The public debt of the Colony amounted therefore to £310,211 16s. 10d.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 848. (Cd.7622-39.)

The currency and coin in circulation are English sterling. The two private banks established in the Colony—the Bank of New Zealand and the Bank of New South Wales—have, temporarily, a private note issue, and the value of notes in circulation on 31st December, 1920, amounted to £39,818. The issue will probably be withdrawn very shortly. The Government Currency Notes in circulation at the close of the year amounted to £372,868, as compared with £149,868 at the end of the year 1919.

As against the Government Note Issue the Commissioners of Currency held on 31st December, 1920, £80,967 in gold and stock to the nominal value of £224,309. An amount of £101,250 was in transit for, or awaiting, investment on the last day of the year.

During the year under review an additional branch of the Government Savings Bank was opened at Ba. There are now twelve branches of this institution, having, in all, 1913 accounts amounting to £41,586 as against £26,851 at the close of the previous year. The total amount deposited during the year was £44,959, exceeding deposits in 1919 by £19,604.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during each of the years 1919 and 1920.

Name of Import.	1919.	1920.
	£	£
Bags and sacks	21,059	77,046
Boots and shoes	8,421	13,141
Biscuits, flour, sharps and pollard ..	107,485	133,484
Butter and ghee	25,638	19,667
Coal	38,939	44,478
Drapery	199,809	319,801
Drugs	8,712	10,648
Fish	13,553	28,686
Galvanised iron and manufactures ..	15,955	27,277
Hardware	43,358	65,030
Live-stock	8,521	14,164
Machinery	39,953	72,242
Manure	19,146	36,840
Meats	19,856	34,232
Oils	45,994	79,264
Rice	36,608	32,012
Soap	4,261	7,283
Spirits	17,637	31,599
Stationery	12,772	15,550
Timber	18,721	77,231
Tobacco (excluding cigars and cigarettes)	17,914	37,254
Vegetables and fruit (preserved and green)	21,460	26,537

The principal items of export continue to be sugar, copra, and bananas, the quantities and values of these products exported during each of the last two years being as follows :—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
1919 ..	64,348	1,014,240	27,311	674,215	76,563
1920 ..	72,985	2,092,990	14,666	508,830	95,315

The number of bunches of bananas exported, the values of which are shown in the foregoing statement, was as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Bunches.</i>
1919	612,795
1920	759,830

Other principal domestic exports were as follows :—

	1919.		1920.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		<i>£</i>		<i>£</i>
Maize	9,822 bush.	1,841	42,732 bush.	11,499
Bêche de mer ..	420 cwt.	2,121	2,329 cwt.	17,545
Trocas shell ..	417 tons	20,764	360 tons	28,244
Rubber	1,395 cwt.	13,867	1,319 cwt.	16,939
Molasses	7,812 tons	7,812	12,699 tons	12,713

The total imports and exports for each of the past two years are shown in the following table :—

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	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
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Bananas.

Although the quantity of bananas shipped during the year slightly exceeds that of 1919, the volume of trade has fallen considerably below the standard of previous years, and is due to the unsettled shipping conditions caused by strikes in Australia, which resulted in the loss of large numbers of bananas.

Experiments are being made in the drying and preserving of bananas, and it is hoped that there may be a future in this direction for the banana industry. At present it is being threatened by maritime strikes and the high Australian tariff.

Rice.

The situation in regard to the supply of rice, which was acute in 1918, was relieved somewhat during the year by a good local harvest. Towards the end of the year the retail price of rice fell below the figure fixed by the Necessary Commodities Commission, and the supply of rice is now plentiful.

The policy of encouraging the local production of rice has been continued, and, with a view to safeguarding the Indian population against the hardship caused by the excessive cost of imported rice, the Government has commenced, on its own account, the cultivation of rice in the two districts which are most suitable for the cultivation. The proximity of the markets in Australia and New Zealand for the sale of rice has not been lost sight of.

Maize.

The quantity exported exceeds that exported during 1919 by 33,000 bushels. This large increase is attributed to the high market price ruling in Australia and New Zealand. Large quantities of maize can be grown in Fiji. During the year an attempt was made, with some degree of success, to prepare maize flour for sale in the local market as a substitute for sharps.

OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Rubber.

The trees continue to give satisfactory results, and rubber-growing in Fiji affords prospects of satisfactory returns on capital invested. Some hundreds of acres of rubber have been planted during the past few years, but the produce from this increased area will not affect the amount exported for a few years.

Sici or Trocas Shell.

The export of this shell has decreased as compared with 1919. The reduction is due to the great fall of price in Japan, which is the principal market for this class of shell. In previous years the price of sici shell varied between £30 and £40 per ton. At the

beginning of the year, the price rose to £80 per ton, and many natives were induced by the high price offering to enter the industry. In the middle of the year, however, the commodity became almost unsaleable, and the amount offering for export dropped away accordingly.

Other items of minor importance in the list of exports are 6,466 hides valued at £7,183 and 194 cattle valued at £1,878.

LAND AND LAND TENURE.

Prior to the British occupation of Fiji, European settlers had acquired large areas of land from the native chiefs, and after the deed of cession Crown Grants for land on claims substantiated before the Lands Commission were issued.

In this manner 414,615 acres were alienated.

In 1875 further sales of native land were prohibited by Ordinance, and the only tenure granted was leasehold for a period not exceeding 21 years. This short term of lease did not conduce to rapid settlement, and between 1876 and 1896 only 100 leases were issued for about 13,000 acres, of which 7,000 acres were taken up for sugar cane, and 4,200 acres for timber.

By Ordinance 4 of 1905, settlers were able to acquire leases up to 99 years direct from natives, the agreement to lease being subject to the approval of the Governor in Council.

The same Ordinance permitted sales of native land, and between 1905 and 1909, 20,184 acres were purchased by settlers, bringing the total area of land held on freehold title up to 434,799 acres.

Subsequent to 1909 no further sales of native land under the provisions of the 1905 Ordinance were permitted. Ordinance No. 3 of 1912 forbids the sale of native land except to the Government.

The standard tenure now is leasehold up to 99 years with reassessment of the rental every twenty-fifth year in building leases, and every thirty-third year in agricultural leases. Tenants whose leases were approaching expiry and who were desirous of planting permanent crops such as rubber or coconuts were deterred from doing so owing to the uncertainty of their leases being renewed. To afford greater security to the tenant, the Government passed Ordinance No. 23 of 1916, which provides that on refusal by the native owners to renew a lease (without just cause) the owner shall pay the value of the permanent and unexhausted improvements on the land, failing payment of which the Governor in Council may issue a lease renewal on reassessed rental.

The present method of obtaining a native lease is for the intending settler to lodge an application with the Commissioner of Lands or a District Commissioner for the land he desires to lease. After ascertaining particulars in regard to ownership, the

owners in District Council are invited to place the land at the disposal of the Governor in Council to lease on their behalf ; and if the land is handed over the Government proceeds to fix the rent and terms of the lease which is then put up to auction, usually at an upset premium of £1 to cover cost of advertising the auction sale. Except for town allotments there is rarely any competition at auction and the applicant usually becomes the lessee, and is called upon to arrange for the survey of the land in order that the lease may issue, but he may forthwith enter into occupation of the land. The system of auction is dispensed with in cases where the area of the land applied for is small, and the applicant is an East Indian. The Government holds " open to settlement " some 180,000 acres of land in different parts of the Colony, suited for such varied purposes as cattle and sheep runs, coconut, rubber, and banana cultivations. Some of the land has been surveyed and classified.

The rent of land in Fiji varies according to situation and quality. Pasturable lands vary from 3*d.* to 2*s.* per acre, coconut lands from 1*s.* to 5*s.*, hill land for rubber, from 6*d.* to 2*s.*, banana, sugar cane, rice, and maize land from 5*s.* to £1, the latter rental prevailing only in certain favoured localities in which supply and demand have resulted in that high rent.

The total lands alienated to settlers exceed one-seventh of the area of the Colony. Three-sevenths of the land are of a mountainous character, unsuited for commercial cultivation, and in any case a considerable proportion of it will be kept as forest reservations, while another two-sevenths are mountainous but suited for cattle.

The following statement shows the position as regards land alienated at the end of the year 1920:—

Title.	On 31st December, 1920.	
	No. of Lots.	Area.
		Acres.
Freehold	1,560	526,894
Native leases	5,415	263,886*
Crown leases	137	8,569*
Total	7,112	799,349
Area held by Crown open to settlement, not the subject of any title about	—	120,000
Unalienated land still held by native owners, about	—	3,604,271
Total area of Colony	—	4,523,620

* To arrive at the actual position on 31st December, 1920, it is necessary to add to the native leases 1,534 leases for 18,331 acres (estimated) and to the Crown leases 55 leases for 8,982 acres (estimated) approved but awaiting survey or execution.

III—IMMIGRATION.

Immigration from India of labourers under a system of indenture has ceased. On 2nd January, 1920, all indentures then existing were cancelled.

The total population of East Indians on the last day of 1920 was 59,675 (males 36,783 ; females 22,892, including children).

The proportion of females to males of the Indian population was 62·19 females to every 100 males.

The s.s. *Ganges* and *Torilla* were chartered to take repatriates back to India. The *Ganges* made three trips and the *Torilla* made one. The total number of immigrants returned to India during the year was :—

s.s. <i>Ganges</i> I	..	..	936 souls	..	821½	Statute adults
.. " II	..	..	939	..	828½	" "
.. " III	..	..	965	..	828½	" "
s.s. <i>Torilla</i>	..	..	1,901	..	1,600	" "
Total	..	..	<u>4,741</u>	..	<u>4,078½</u>	" "

The death-rate per cent. among East Indian immigrants during the year was ·65.

By Ordinance No. 34 of 1920 the Government extended for a further ten years the period within which those immigrants who had arrived in the Colony after the passing of Ordinance No. 6 of 1906, were entitled to claim a return passage to India at the expense of the Government of Fiji.

IV.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The form of native administration remains unchanged. Based on a system conforming to the so-called communistic mode of native life, it conforms to those customs and usages which have been regarded as desirable. Any remodification of the system must necessarily be in keeping with native temperament and must be of a conservative rather than of a radical nature. As has been reported previously, indications are not wanting of a distinct development of native character, which, although docile and highly amenable to the orders of constituted authority, inclines slowly towards individualistic interests. Superficially, at any rate, the Fijian, during the 46 years of British rule, has taken a long stride forward, but the elements in his character which rendered the system of native administration at the beginning of British rule both wise and necessary, in the greater part still remain. It is the policy, however, through a process of education and training, to create in the native an incentive to energy, and to grant to him more individual liberty. By this means there may evolve a greater scope for individual initiative than is to be found in a purer communism which restricted natives from absenting themselves from their villages, regardless of proffered reasons, when, by permitting such absence there was

danger of depleting the man-power of a village to a level insufficient to maintain cleanliness and sanitation. Now, however, where considerations of individual interest conflict with communistic demands, they are not unduly discouraged, and the wish of the individual being thus the prime consideration is allowed precedence over communal interests so long as suitable provision is made for the welfare of dependants.

In a largely increasing degree the Fijian native is becoming a factor in the labour markets of the Colony, and during the year under review some 2,000 men hired their services under varying periods of contract. For the ordinary purposes of daily life, however, there is no apparent need for the performance of any more work than the native at present performs, but the need will grow with the development of the native mind, the development bringing with it inevitably tastes that demand satisfaction. It seems, therefore, in some districts at least, although not in others, that the Fijian appears to have reached the height of prosperity commensurate with his degree of development.

The work of the Native Lands Commission has progressed as satisfactorily as circumstances have permitted, the surveys of Lomaiviti and Tailevu South having been almost completed notwithstanding the great scarcity of surveyors, whilst investigation work has proceeded in the Provinces of Naitasiri and Macuata. There can be no doubt whatsoever that the completion of surveys of mataqali lands and the registration of holdings will go far towards promoting a greater interest among Fijians in their own general and individual advancement. Where surveys have been completed and registered, and ownership thus definitely settled, indications of this condition are distinctly apparent. In closely settled Provinces where the work of the Commission has been entirely accomplished, the leasing of native land and the distribution of native rents, formerly an extremely difficult matter, are now greatly facilitated. Of the areas already surveyed in the Provinces of Ba, Lautoka, Nadi, Nadroga, and Colo West, 20,726½ acres have been found to be the property of the Crown through the extinction of mataqalis since the date of cession, whilst in the same surveyed areas 39,554 acres have been found to have been unoccupied land at the date of cession and have since remained unoccupied. These latter areas are now under the control of the Government on behalf of natives generally, the revenue accruing therefrom being devoted to such purposes as the Governor may direct. In addition to these areas, other large quantities of land that have become the property of the Crown as *ultimus hæres* as well as further acres of vacant land, lie within unsurveyed lands in respect of which the Commission has completed its investigations.

The triennial Council of Chiefs was held during October for the purpose of nominating Fijian members to the Legislative Council. Resolutions affecting the disposal of native lands and education were submitted for the consideration of the Governor.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Forty Ordinances were passed during the year 1920. The principle of taxation on incomes was adopted for the first time in the history of the Colony by the Income Tax Bill.

VI.—EDUCATION.

In 1920 the expenditure on education was £19,990 as compared with £14,185 in 1919 and £10,513 in 1918. The secondary schools established in 1917 in Suva had a roll of 219 in December, 1920 (Boys' Grammar School, 103; Girls' Grammar School, with mixed Kindergarten, 116). The Colonial Sugar Refining Company's School for European children at Rarawai, Ba, was taken over by the Government in 1919, and 68 children from the country were boarded in the two Grammar Schools and Levuka Public School.

Twenty schools have been admitted to grants in aid under the Primary Schools Regulations and 21 under the Vernacular Schools Regulations. Of the latter 13 are for Fijians and eight for Indians.

It has not yet been possible to establish any Government Assisted Training College, but the Davuilevu Institution of the Methodist Mission qualified for the pass grant under the supplementary regulations in connection with training schools in respect of 11 Fijian and seven Indian students who passed the Teachers' Qualifying Examination. Government assistance has also been given towards the expenses and maintenance of seven Indian students who have been sent to India to study at the Allahabad Agricultural Institute and to one Fijian student at Hawkesbury Agricultural College in New South Wales.

The school work during the year was adversely affected by the Australian shipping strike at the beginning of the year, as a result of which most of the teachers, who were on vacation in Australia, were not able to return and schools were not opened until the 8th March. In December, 26 candidates sat for the Cambridge Local Examinations, Preliminary and Junior.

An Ordinance to make compulsory the registration of schools and teachers in the Colony was passed in 1918, and in 1919 Regulations were made under it. The work of registration is being proceeded with, 379 schools and 655 teachers having been registered during the year.

The native provinces have subscribed largely towards the cost of establishing four Joint Provincial Schools for Fijian boys. It is intended that each school will board 60 to 70 pupils. Difficulties of sites, building materials and staffing have delayed the scheme. One of the four schools will be in operation in 1921.

There are now altogether 48 Government and Assisted Schools, 21 being for Indians, 21 for Fijians, two receiving both Indians and Fijians, and four for Europeans, other races and half-castes.

They have 2,960 pupils, of whom 1,086 are Indians, 1,247 are Fijians, and 627 are Europeans, other races and half-castes. They have 47 European, 33 native and 23 Indian teachers. There are village schools in the great majority of native villages. These are supervised by native teachers and instruction is given in the vernacular.

VII.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Colonial Hospital in Suva provides separate accommodation for European, Indian and Fijian patients. There are also four private wards. During the year, 2,235 patients, of whom 156 were Europeans, were admitted for treatment. The expenditure on the hospital, exclusive of the cost of maintenance of buildings, amounted to £6,267 16s. 6d., and the direct revenue was £1,263 6s. 9d.

At Levuka there is a branch hospital, to which the admissions during the year amounted to 481.

The War Memorial of the Colony is to take the form of an up-to-date hospital in Suva, with fully-equipped hospitals established in the principal settlements throughout the Group. Up to the present the public of Fiji have subscribed £19,000 for this purpose.

Native Fijians generally obtain medical treatment at the eleven Provincial Hospitals controlled and supervised by District Medical Officers. Owing to shortage in staff, several of these hospitals were left in charge of native medical practitioners during the year.

The Lunatic Asylum at Suva is under the management of the Resident Medical Officer at the Colonial Hospital, and is under the supervision of a Board of Visitors appointed by the Governor. During 1920, 39 persons were admitted and 14 were discharged. There is separate accommodation for Europeans.

The Government Leper Asylum is situated on the Island of Makogai, and is under the management of the Superintendent, Dr. Harper, who is assisted by eight European Nursing Sisters and six Fijian Nursing Sisters, all greatly devoted to their good work. The institution is efficiently conducted, and the health and happiness of the patients receive the utmost attention. During the year 11 lepers were conditionally discharged from the asylum.

VIII.—CRIMINAL AND POLICE.

Police.

Police duties are carried out by the Fiji Constabulary, a semi-military force composed of European, Fijian and Indian members under the command of European Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, and under the direction and supervision of the Inspector-General.

Gaols.

Under the system at present in force, short-sentence prisoners are detained in the Provincial Gaol of the district in which they are sentenced. All prisoners of sentences exceeding six months are sent to a central gaol in Suva which is under the control of the Superintendent of Gaols. The Provincial Gaols are under the control of the Senior Member of the Constabulary stationed there. Where there is no European member of the Constabulary, the Provincial Gaol is under the control of the District Commissioner.

Prisoners are employed on public works authorised by the Governor, and in the manufacture of articles for use in Government Departments. The total value of the work performed by prison labour in the gaols of the Colony, exclusive of that utilised in the Prison Service, is estimated at £7,789 2s. 6d. on the basis of 2s. 6d. per unit per diem.

5,217 offences were reported in 1920 as against 5,431 in 1919. The number of summary convictions was 5,135, and the number of convictions in the Supreme Court was 82. There are 20 proclaimed prisons within the Colony. On 31st December last there were 290 prisoners confined in the various prisons of the Colony.

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The following statement shows the estimated population at the end of 1920, as compared with the population at the census taken on 2nd April, 1911.

	Census on 2nd April, 1911.			Estimated population on 31st December, 1920.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total
Europeans ..	2,403	1,304	3,707	3,284	1,810	5,094
Half-castes ..	1,217	1,184	2,401	1,451	1,383	2,834
Polynesians ..	2,429	329	2,758	1,976	564	2,540
Fijians ..	46,110	40,986	87,096	46,457	42,223	88,680
Rotumans ..	1,043	1,133	2,176	1,136	974	2,110
Indians ..	26,073	14,213	40,286	36,874	22,821	59,695
Chinese ..	276	29	305	883	59	942
Others ..	457	355	812	217	492	709

Note.—The above figures include 20 Europeans (16 males, 4 females), 21 half-castes (13 males, 8 females) and 90 others (46 males, 44 females) at Rotuma.

Total population at census, 1911 .. 139,541

Total estimated population at 31st
December, 1920 162,604

Increase 23,063

It is estimated that the number of deaths for the year, and the respective percentages, were as follows:—

	Population.	Deaths.	Per cent.
Europeans	5,074	40	.78
Half-castes	2,813	10	.35
Fijians	88,569	2,029	2.29
Indians	59,682	389	.65
Others	4,001	47	.87

X.—CLIMATE.

The meteorological observations for 1920 show that the total rainfall recorded at Suva during the year was 108.45 in., as against 138.18 in. in 1919 and 103.84 in. in 1918. This rainfall is 4.53 in. below the average, and rain fell on 262 days.

The greatest rainfall on any one day throughout the year was 5.59 in. on 29th May, 1920.

The mean relative humidity for the year was 86.9 per cent., being slightly above the two previous years.

The month of April showed most rain with 18.47 in., and June least with 2.95 in.

The year was a normal one throughout, very little rain falling during June, July and August.

The following is a statement showing the average rainfall throughout the Colony:—

Station.	Total for 1920.	Average Annual Rainfall to end of 1920.
	in.	in.
Rambi	108.25	154.25
Navua	111.01	124.99
Nasinu Experimental Station ..	120.30	129.42
Suva	108.45	112.98
Nausori	105.25	110.76
Salia Levu (Taviuni)	274.85	214.44
Buca Bay	98.08	99.13
Labasa	76.06	79.52
Rarawai (Ba)	62.01	78.09
Munia	53.70	69.69
Nadroga	53.20	67.38
Lautoka Estate	75.00	65.02
Navisa (Ba)	62.35	85.38

The mean shade temperatures at Suva for the year were 70.7° F. minimum, and 81.1° F. maximum. The average temperature for the year was 75.9° F. The highest temperature

recorded was 91·0° F. on 4th March and the lowest was 55·0° F. on 3rd July. The hottest month was March, with an average temperature of 85·4° F. maximum and 73·8° F. minimum and the coolest month was June, with an average of 76·7° F. maximum and 67·6° F. minimum.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The nationalities of vessels visiting the Colony are shown in the following table :—

Nationality.	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	103	257,448	113	316,877
American	35	18,789	34	20,843
Norwegian	—	—	—	—
Japanese	—	—	—	—
Belgian	1	277	—	—
	139	276,514	147	337,720

The number and tonnage of local vessels holding coasting licences were :—

	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
European-owned vessels ..	96	1,671	91	1,787
Native-owned vessels ..	78	606	77	673
Chinese-owned vessels ..	19	157	15	120
Indian-owned vessels ..	10	48	8	42
Japanese-owned vessels ..	8	75	9	79
Total	211	2,557	200	2,701

During no less than five months of the year shipping with Australia was interrupted by maritime strikes in that country. The prosperity and progress of the Colony are adversely affected by the frequent cessation of communication with the neighbouring Dominions as the result of these strikes.

The question of establishing direct communication with the United Kingdom is still receiving the attention of the Government, and it is hoped that a regular service of cargo vessels, which will materially benefit the Colony, not only by reducing the high cost of living owing to cheaper freights, but also by opening up new markets for its produce, will shortly be inaugurated.

Postal.

Steamers of the following lines, the Canadian-Australian line, the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, Limited, the Australasian United Steam Navigation Company, Limited, convey mails between Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand. Opportunity is taken also, whenever possible, of despatching mails by visiting vessels.

Inter-island communication is maintained by regular steamer and cutter services, and on the larger islands mails are carried by runners, and on the north side of Vitilevu by train.

A subsidy at the rate of £5,000 per annum is paid to the Canadian-Australian line, and its vessels, moreover, are exempted from the payment of certain dues. A subsidy at the rate of £7,500 per annum was given to the Australasian United Steamship Navigation Company, Limited, in respect of the Fiji-Sydney and Melbourne, and Interinsular steam services during the year.

The following statement shows the volume of the transactions of the Colony in postal matters during the last two years :—

Year.	Letters and Postcards.	Newspapers, Books, Packets, etc.	Parcels.	Total.
1919.. ..	1,109,222	783,433	23,204	1,915,859
1920.. ..	1,291,910	807,051	29,402	2,128,363

The total value of the money orders and postal orders issued and paid in the Colony during each of the last two years was as follows :—

Money Orders.

Year.	Issued in the Colony. Value.	Paid in the Colony. Value.
	£	£
1919	40,651	15,281
1920	51,775	15,276

Postal Orders.

Year.	Issued in the Colony. Value.	Paid in the Colony. Value.
	£	£
1919	3,547	1,244
1920	3,643	891

The number of Post Offices at the end of 1920 was 66, which included 15 money order offices and 15 postal order offices, and 20 offices to which dutiable parcels were forwarded for delivery and collection of duty.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The towns of Suva and Levuka, situated 54 miles apart on different islands, are connected by a telegraphic and telephonic system, of which eleven and a half miles is by submarine cable. The main island of Viti Levu is intersected by an overhead telephone line which passes through Nausori, Vunidawa, Nadarivatu and Ba, and terminates at Suva and Lautoka. Of this line, the section between Suva and Ba is the joint property of the Government, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, and the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand. The Government interest in the line terminates at Ba, though, by arrangement, hours have been allotted to the public use of this section. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company have also extended their private line from Lautoka to Sigatoka. An agreement is now under consideration whereby the line from Suva to Ba will become the property of the Government and a more satisfactory service afforded to the public by an increased expenditure on maintenance.

Government telephone services are established in the towns of Suva and Lautoka, and in the districts of Nausori, Navua, and Taviuni. In addition, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company have established private services at Ba, Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka, which connect with the main overland line to Suva, and at Labasa, which connects with the wireless station.

At the principal settlements throughout the Colony, viz., Labasa, Taviuni, and Savu Savu, which are not otherwise in communication with the capital, wireless stations have been established under Government control, and it is proposed to increase the service by the erection of stations at Loma Loma in the Lau Group, and Rotuma.

Direct cable communication exists between Fiji and Canada, Australia and New Zealand through the Pacific Cable Board, whose office is situated in Suva.

XII.—GENERAL.

The outstanding event of the year was the visit to the Colony on 20th April of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The residents of these islands are seldom afforded an opportunity of demonstrating to an Heir to the Throne the loyalty and devotion with which the Throne is regarded, and the news of the visit was received with great enthusiasm by all races. The visit was of particular interest to the Fijian race, who remember, and still discuss, the visit in 1881 of his Royal Highness's illustrious father

Dense crowds from all parts of The Group welcomed His Royal Highness to Fiji, and, although the weather was unpropitious, ceremonies, on a hitherto unprecedented scale, in which all classes and races of the community participated, were held in honour of the visit.

On the return of H.M.S. *Renown* from Australia in August, a second visit was paid to Fiji. On this occasion, at the request of His Royal Highness, no official functions were held.

On 15th January a strike of Indians caused the cessation of all work on the south side of the Island of Vitilevu. The initial cause of the strike was attributed to the increase in the cost of living as compared with the increase in wages earned. Racial propaganda, however, complicated the situation and led to spasmodic outbreaks of rowdiness and rioting. The strike ended in the second week in February.

During the strike a Commission was appointed to investigate the increase in the cost of living. The Report of the Commission was printed and laid on the table of the Legislative Council. As compared with pre-war conditions, the Commission found that the cost of living had increased, in the case of Europeans 63.77 per cent., and of Indians 86 per cent.

With a view also to enabling the wage-earning classes, more particularly the Indian community, to meet the high cost of living, the Government decided to repeal the Hut Tax Ordinance, and to admit, free of import duty, all essential foodstuffs.

Later in the year a Commission was appointed to take evidence on, and to report upon, the best means of granting the franchise to the Indian community with a view to representation, by two elected members, on the Legislative Council. Meetings were held in Suva and Lautoka. A Report by the Commission has been laid on the table of the Legislative Council, and is receiving consideration.

Mr. H. E. Dale, C.B., appointed by the Secretary of State as Commissioner to report on the organisation and pay of the Civil Service of the Colony, arrived in Fiji early in the year. On the recommendations made by him in a preliminary report, Civil Servants were granted a bonus on salary as from the beginning of the year. A full report on reorganisation of the Civil Service is at present receiving the consideration of the Government.

The Legislative Council elections were held in September, and resulted in the return of four members of the previous Council, and the election of three new members to the Council.

The installation of a Municipal Electrical Power Station and the lighting of the town of Suva by electric light during the year, mark a step forward in the progress of the Colony.

J. McOWAN,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

17th June, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.,	Year.
1044	Bermuda	1919
1045	Basutoland	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus	"
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919-1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.,	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



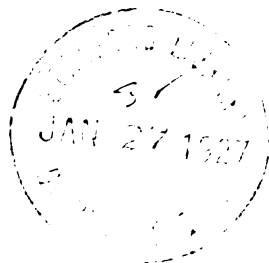
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1081.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1050.)



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No. 1081.

GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.*

INTRODUCTION.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Gibraltar is a narrow peninsula three miles in length and $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile in breadth, with a total area of $1\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, situated in latitude $36^{\circ} 7' 16''$ North and longitude $5^{\circ} 21' 13''$ West near the Southern extremity of Spain, being joined to the mainland by a low sandy isthmus. It consists of a long high mountain, the ridge of which, from north to south, divides it into two unequal parts. The extreme height of the "Rock," as the mountain is commonly called, is 1,396 ft. The town is built on the western and southern sides, which face the Bay. The northern and eastern faces of the Rock are an inaccessible cliff, forming a series of rugged precipices at the foot of which, on the eastern side, confronting the Mediterranean, stands the small fishing village of Catalan Bay.

HISTORICAL.

Gibraltar was known to the ancients as Mons Calpe, one of the Pillars of Hercules, the other being Mount Abyla, or Apes Hill, on the opposite coast of Africa. It was possessed successively by the Phœnicians, the Carthaginians, the Romans, and the Visigoths, but remained uninhabited till the Mahomedan invasion of Spain.

In 711 the Moorish Chief, Tarik-Ibn-Zeyad, landed on the Rock, and gave it the name of Gibel-Tarik, or Mountain of Tarik, of which the name Gibraltar is a corruption. It remained in Moorish hands until 1309, when it was seized by the Spaniards.

In 1333 it was again taken by the Moors, but was wrested from the Moslem dynasty in 1462 and reverted to the dominion of Spain.

In 1704 it was captured by the British Forces under Admiral Sir George Rooke during the war of the Spanish Succession, and was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, renewed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783. Many attempts

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 850 [Cd. 7622-42].

have been made to retake Gibraltar, especially during the great siege in 1779-83 when General Elliott (afterwards Lord Heathfield) defended it against the united forces of Spain and France, but all have been unsuccessful, and it has remained in British hands since its capture in 1704.

The Governor, who is in command of the Garrison, exercises all the functions of government and legislation, there being no Executive or Legislative Council.

CLIMATE.

The general climate of Gibraltar is mild and temperate, though somewhat hot and oppressive during the months of July and August. The meteorological record for 1920 shows 70·4° as the mean maximum temperature: the highest shade temperature being 95° on the 6th August, and the lowest 37° on the 11th March. The rainy season spreads over the period from September to May; the annual average rainfall is 35 in., but in 1920 the unusually small record of 27·22 in. was registered.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The high price of food and other commodities has continued to press hardly on all classes of the community, and it was found necessary to increase still further, during the year under review, the war allowance granted to officials in the Civil Service. It was, however, considered advisable towards the end of the year to introduce measures terminating the system of food control which had been necessary during the War and subsequently, and, in November, the Government withdrew the flour subsidy, whilst the Food Supply Committee ceased its operations for the issue of cheap foodstuffs to the poor. A slight rise in the price of bread was compensated for by a sharp decline in the price of sugar and, at the close of the year, the normal economical laws of supply and demand were once more in operation.

A strong Committee was appointed to investigate and report on the housing question and the lack of accommodation in Gibraltar, which continues to be one of the most difficult of the local problems. The law provides that no one may reside in Gibraltar without the special permission of the Governor unless he is employed in the service of the Crown or is a native of Gibraltar, and it has been found necessary ruthlessly to refuse applications for residence permits in order to prevent still further over-crowding and lack of accommodation. Practically every available space for building is already taken up, and it is not, therefore, feasible to provide additional housing accommodation, whilst, for military reasons, it is essential to guard against an increase in population. Hence, immigration into Gibraltar is

not only discouraged, but actually prohibited: emigration is directed mainly to the United States and to South America, but the Gibraltarian is not generally inclined to emigrate and prefers to remain on the Rock in spite of the congestion existing.

Various measures were taken during the year to deal with the traffic problem, always a difficulty in Gibraltar owing to its narrow and tortuous streets. Generous grants have been made by the Government to the Board of Sanitary Commissioners to enable them to make new roads, improve existing ones, and round off dangerous corners, whilst a road skirting the harbour has been opened to the public and serves to divert traffic from the main street of the town.

The amount of shipping visiting the port has shown some falling-off since the termination of the War, and the coal miners' strike in the United Kingdom reacted seriously on the coaling business in Gibraltar. Coal merchants were at one time obliged to obtain stocks from the United States, and great difficulties were experienced in carrying on the trade. Nevertheless, the convenience afforded to shipping by the geographical position of Gibraltar and the many facilities which it gives to vessels calling at the port continued to attract shipping, and the total tonnage of vessels using the port showed little variation from that of the previous year.

Vital Statistics and Public Health.

The estimated civil population on 31st December, 1920, was 17,690, of whom 16,181 are fixed residents: 14,604 persons reside in the City or Northern District, where the density of the population is 140 persons per acre.

The number of births among the fixed population was 375, equal to 23·2 per 1,000. Aliens are not permitted to give birth in Gibraltar.

The total number of deaths was 308, the crude death rate per 1,000 being 17·45: that from principal acute infectious diseases was 1·13 per 1,000, and from Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1·8 per 1,000.

Mortality from Cancer was 58·5 per mil., and Infantine mortality 128 per 1,000.

The general sanitary condition of Gibraltar was excellent, and there was no disease of an epidemic nature during the year. The sanitary work of the Colony is carried out by a municipal body called the Sanitary Commissioners, who are appointed by the Governor. Their work includes the charge of roads, lighting and cleansing, together with the enforcement of proper sanitary measures in dwelling-houses, and the provision of water supply.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £287,051, the highest recorded in the history of the Colony.

The Expenditure was £372,994, a large increase as compared with previous years, due chiefly to provision made for depreciation of invested funds, increased war allowance to officials and contributions towards the construction and improvement of roads.

The totals of Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years are as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1916.. .. .	100,611	119,570
1917.. .. .	125,876	119,636
1918.. .. .	158,693	133,387
1919.. .. .	239,397	136,432
1920.. .. .	287,051	372,994

There is no Public Debt.

The only taxation introduced during the year 1920 was an export duty on all fuel oil (whether taken as cargo or bunkers), of 1s. 6d. per ton of actual weight delivered.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON
31ST DECEMBER, 1920.*Assets.*

	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank and Chest	9,502	11	3
Advances due to Government	26,095	0	5
Imprests	1,144	19	4
Balance of Sanitary Commissioners' Loan <i>re</i> Street Lighting	7,979	14	8
Investments—General Revenue	414,323	19	10
Savings Bank	263,732	12	3
Investments on a/c of Deposits :—			
Supreme Court Funds	£55,576	7	0
Custodian Enemy Property	3,189	12	8
	58,765	19	8
Currency Notes in circulation	222,136	16	0
Stores Suspense Account	868	6	5
	£1,004,549	19	10

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Deposits due by Government	502,677	4	3
Currency Note Security Fund	160,000	0	0
Drafts and Remittances	14,921	1	1
Investments Depreciation Account	116,439	17	5
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities	210,511	17	1
	£1,004,549	19	10

Currency and Banking.

The legal tender of the Colony is British currency, and the accounts in Government Departments are so kept, but Spanish currency circulates freely. The fact that a very large portion of supplies of foodstuffs, etc., is obtained from Spain necessitates

payment being made in the currency of that country. Many merchants and traders keep their accounts in pesetas and centimos and dollars and cents.

The rate for conversion of British into Spanish currency is governed by the Stock Exchange at Madrid and telegraphed daily to the banks at Gibraltar. The average rate for the year was 23 pesetas 20 centimos to the pound sterling.

Colonial Government Currency Notes are in circulation to the amount of £222,136. These Notes were issued under the Bank Note Ordinance, 1914, and are of values £50, £5, £1, 10s., and 2s.

A Government Savings Bank which was established in 1882 is worked under the administration of the Post Office. The total number of depositors on 31st December, 1920, was 5,137, with deposits amounting to £192,688, and pesetas 57,177. The latter refer to deposits made prior to October, 1898, when deposits in Spanish currency were closed. Interest is paid at the rate of a halfpenny on each complete sum of twenty shillings per mensem.

There are four private banks who have correspondents in all the principal cities of the world and offer every facility for the transaction of banking business, viz. :—

The Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ltd., Head Office, 27, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, London, E.C.4.

The Crédit Foncier d'Algérie et de Tunisie, Head Office, 43, Rue Cambon, Paris.

A. L. Galliano, of Gibraltar.

Messrs. Rugeroni Bros. & Co., of Gibraltar.

III.—TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The staple trade is the supply of coal, stores, and fresh water to shipping, as Gibraltar is pre-eminently a Coaling Station. A fair amount of business is also carried on in connection with the transit cargo to Morocco and Spain.

The total tonnage of coal disposed of during the year was 1,154,823, of which 1,150,180 tons were bunkered and 4,648 exported.

Statistics of imports and exports (except such as are necessary for revenue purposes) are not kept, the only dutiable goods being wines, spirits, malt liquors, and tobacco.

The only industries in Gibraltar are connected with shipping and the manufacture of tobacco. At the foundries and yards situated on the North Front, boats, lighters, and steam launches are built and repaired, and extensive repairs are often carried out to both hulls and machinery of vessels calling here.

There is no land in Gibraltar capable of cultivation.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

Fifteen Laws were enacted during the year, only four of which have interest other than local, viz. :—

Ordinance No. 2—Prohibiting the landing or introduction into Gibraltar of certain dyestuffs.

Ordinance No. 8—Imposing an export tax on fuel oil (whether taken as cargo or bunkers) of 1s. 6d. per ton.

Ordinance No. 9—For the control of Motor Traffic in Gibraltar and the facilitating of the International Circulation of Motor Vehicles.

Ordinance No. 11—Making provision with respect to Wireless Telegraphy on ships.

V.—EDUCATION.

Primary:

Education is compulsory in the case of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years.

There are 16 Government-aided schools for primary education—12 Roman Catholic, 2 Hebrew, and 2 undenominational.

The Roman Catholic Schools are conducted by the Christian Brothers and Nuns of the Order of Loretto, and the undenominational schools by lay teachers, and the various schools are under the management of local Committees.

The total number of scholars on the registers was 2,604, and the average number in attendance 2,182.

The Government grant for the year was assessed at £2 per pupil, based on the average attendance and, including exchange compensation and water and sanitary rates, amounted to £5,249.

In order to enforce the attendance of children, an officer of Police is deputed, under the Compulsory Education Ordinance, to act as Attendance Officer, and he visits the schools weekly to examine attendance books and note absentees; 142 cases against the parents and guardians of defaulting children were dealt with by the Police Magistrate in 1920.

The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the Surgical Staff of the Colonial Hospital, and in addition to the examination of physically defective children and of those suffering from bad sight, regular inspections at schools are made and reports submitted by the Surgeons, who give advice and treatment gratis.

The question of improving the system of education in these schools is receiving consideration, and Mr. H. Hancock, Inspector of Schools and Acting Director of Education, Trinidad, was appointed by the Colonial Office, in compliance with a request

from the Government, to visit Gibraltar and report on the Elementary Education system in Gibraltar, and his report and recommendations are being considered.

Secondary.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony, viz. :—

Line Wall College, for boys, conducted by the Christian Brothers.

Convents of Loretto and St. Francis Xavier, for girls, under the Nuns of the Loretto Order.

“Brympton,” a Church of England school, for boys and girls, managed by a local Committee, and conducted by lay teachers.

“Brighthurst,” for boys and girls, under the direction of Mr. F. Martin.

In these educational establishments pupils are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the Examination of the London College of Preceptors, both of which are held annually. In addition to the above there are a number of private schools with about 300 pupils, but the instruction given is mainly of an elementary character.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Postal.

British and Continental mails are forwarded and received daily by overland route—via Spain and France—and there is a daily steam service in connection with this mail service, between Gibraltar and the Spanish town of Algeciras, for which the Colonial Government pays the Andaluces Railway Company, under contract, an annual subsidy of £750.

Correspondence for Egypt and places eastward of Suez is forwarded weekly by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company steamers, and the Orient Line steamers also carry mails for Naples.

Ship mails for Malta, Algiers, and Naples are made up and despatched by merchant steamers by every practicable opportunity, and mails for Morocco are carried by Bland's line of steamers twice a week.

There is also a Parcel Post service with the United Kingdom, and parcels may be sent to nearly all countries in the Postal Union.

Overland mails from Gibraltar reach London in about three days and a half.

Telegraph.

The Government land lines connecting Gibraltar with the Spanish towns of San Roque, Cadiz, Malaga and Cordoba are worked by the Eastern Telegraph Company who, under a special agreement, pay £300 annually to the Colonial Government.

The Eastern Telegraph Company have a station at Gibraltar where telegrams are accepted for all parts of the world.

Commercial and private messages for transmission by the Naval Wireless Station to merchant vessels at sea in the neighbourhood are also accepted at the offices of the Eastern Telegraph Company and, similarly, wireless messages received from ships are delivered by that Company.

Telephones.

There are no telephones under Colonial Government control. There is a telephone service worked as a commercial undertaking by a private individual, which allows certain facilities to public departments. The Naval and Military departments have their own lines which are connected with the Civil Exchange.

Roads.

The upkeep of roads is in the hands of the Sanitary Commissioners in whom they are vested by law. The length of roads open for traffic is :—three miles in the City, or Northern District, three miles in the South District, and about two miles in the North Front and Catalan Bay District.

Roads in the City are narrow, those in the other districts are fairly wide. All are in excellent condition and are suitable for motor traffic.

There are no railways or tramways in Gibraltar.

Shipping.

Owing to its geographical position, Gibraltar is extensively used as a port of call and a coaling station by vessels of every nationality.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered Gibraltar during 1920 :—

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
5,332	11,517,208	1,114	96,979	6,496	11,614,187

As compared with 1919, there was a decrease of 337 in the number of vessels entering the port, with an aggregate tonnage of 2,123,772 tons—a decrease of 473 steamers and an increase of 136 sailing vessels.

The principal lines which call regularly at this Port are :—

Weekly.—The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.

Fortnightly.—Anchor Line, Cunard Line, Ellerman Line, White Star Line, Union-Castle Line, Wescott and Lawrence, Power Steamship Co., Byron Steamship Co., Hall Line, Société Générale de Transport Maritime à Vapeur, Royal Netherland Steamship Co., Royal Nederland and West India Mail Line, Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland, Holland-America Line.

Monthly.—Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Orient Line, Swedish Morocco Line.

In addition to the above, Bland's local line of steamers make frequent sailings to and from the Morocco and Spanish ports, and there is a daily steam service between Gibraltar and the town of Algeciras on the opposite side of the Bay.

The length of passage from London to Gibraltar is about four and a half days.

C. W. J. ORR,

Colonial Secretary.

Gibraltar, 19th July, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1045	Basutoland..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1046	Cyprus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1047	Fiji ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1049	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1050	Gibraltar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1052	Zanzibar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1053	Gambia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1054	Uganda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1055	Malta ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1056	Swaziland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1058	Ashanti ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1059	Bahamas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1061	Seychelles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1062	Mauritius ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1063	St. Vincent..	..	..	..	..	April-December—	..	..	1919
1064	Nigeria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1065	Sierra Leone ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1066	Gold Coast ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1067	Jamaica ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1070	British Honduras ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1071	Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1072	Barbados ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1076	Falkland Islands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1077	Bermuda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1078	Grenada ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1079	Uganda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1080	Fiji ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Colony, etc.				Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies ..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monu- ments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon ..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent ..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protec- torate.
92	Colonies—General	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1082.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 1011.)



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NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1919.

GOLD COAST:

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1920

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1919.

1.—FINANCIAL.

1. Caravan Tolls, which were abolished on the 1st September 1908, and which realized in 1907 a sum of £18,046, represented practically the one source of Revenue of the Protectorate, which has since become a negligible quantity and will so continue until the inauguration of cheap transport stimulates industries that at present lie latent.

2. The Trade Roads, which are maintained at considerable expense and by the employment of a large amount of labour, benefit the numerous caravans that travel along them, free of all charges, southward to Ashanti and Northward to French Territory.

3. In his message to the Legislative Council when presenting the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Gold Coast Colony and its Dependencies for the year under review, the late Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, placed before his readers the Protectorate's position in the following terms :—

"It is true that, since the abolition of the caravan tolls, the revenue of the Northern Territories has been negligible, amounting annually to little more than £3,500. It is also true that the actual expenditure on the Protectorate approximates to between four and five times that figure, representing an annual excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to between £12,000 to £13,500. These figures, however, only tell a portion of the truth. In 1908 and 1909, when the caravans dues were still in force, the revenue of the Dependency amounted to £18,000 and to nearly £11,000 respectively and having regard to the annual expansion of trade, there can be little doubt that during the last decade if the collection of these dues had continued, the annual revenue of the Northern Territories would have greatly increased. The policy of abolishing the caravan-dues was deliberately embarked upon in the interest of Ashanti and the Colony, and it is these parts of the Gold Coast which have directly profited by the sacrifice of immediate revenue to which the Northern Territories submitted ten years ago. The Colony and Ashanti are almost entirely dependent for their meat-supply upon the cattle traffic which passes through the Northern Territories, and a portion of which originates in the Protectorate; and in 1916 and 1917 respectively, 14,799 and 10,280 head of cattle reached Coomassie by routes through the Northern Territories. Those who complain that the Protectorate is not financially self-supporting may be asked to consider whether the Colony and Ashanti would to-day be better situated than they are if, instead of

“ substituting an annual subsidy for the revenue which the Northern Territories formerly derived from this source, a policy had been persisted in which tended to restrict the volume and considerably to increase the cost of the meat supply for which there is a steady and growing demand, not only in the main centres of population, but throughout the principal cocoa-districts, where in normal times cattle are daily slaughtered.

“ The consumption per head of imported articles by the large population of the Northern Territories is negligible, if it be compared with that of the natives of the Colony or Ashanti ; but it should be remembered that the customs duties payable upon any articles so consumed are credited, not to the Northern Territories, but to the revenue of the Colony.

“ The great service, however, which the Northern Territories renders to the rest of the Gold Coast lies in the supply of man-power which it affords. Large and increasing numbers of young men from this Dependency annually visit the Colony and Ashanti in search of work. There is no recruiting machinery in operation, the immigration being voluntary ; but the supply of able-bodied men which the Dependency has provided of recent years for work in the Gold Mines and for the transport of cocoa has represented an appreciable percentage of the total available labour for the Colony and Ashanti alike.

“ The Northern Territories has rendered an even more important service to the Gold Coast by providing, by voluntary enlistment, ninety per centum of the rank and file of the Regiment which bears this Colony's name. The natives of this Dependency represent the best fighting material which the Gold Coast produces, and the splendid record of loyalty, heroism and courage which the Gold Coast Regiment has established for itself in Togoland, in the Kameruns, and in German and Portuguese East Africa, shows how fine is the quality of that material.”

4. This statement was supplemented by the present Governor, His Excellency Brigadier General F. G. Guggisberg, C. M. G., D. S. O., in a speech delivered by him at the Council Chamber on the 9th October, 1919. His Excellency spoke as follows :—

“ I am immensely struck by the way in which the whole of the Gold Coast did its work in this war as part of our great Empire. We are sometimes apt to forget things but I can promise you that the Government will never forget what the people of this country did for the Empire during the war. In this connection I want the people of the Gold Coast and the people of Ashanti, who are both so well off and so fortunate with their great production of wealth, not to forget what the Northern Territories have, for so many years, purposely but unavoidably been deprived of sufficient funds to help them along in that great progress which we expect them to make. I specially mention this to you because during the course of next month I shall be asking you to agree to certain increases in expenditure which will directly benefit the Northern Territories, and which, incidentally will indirectly benefit the whole country enormously.”

5. The following enheartening message occurred in His Excellency's address to the Legislative Council at a meeting held on the 20th October last :—

“Finally, I should like to send a message to the Northern Territories that I hope within the next few years to see trains heavily loaded with ground-nuts, shea-butter, corn, and cattle steaming south across the Volta. “The career of the Northern Territories as the Cinderella of the Gold Coast “is nearing its end : as Cinderella she has done good and unobtrusive work : “her reward for that, and for the gallantry of her soldiers, is in sight.”, and was communicated to the Protectorate by telegram, where it aroused the greatest enthusiasm among all sections of the community.

6. The shortage of silver coinage and the attempt to replace this by the substitution of a paper currency, has reacted most unfavourably on trade and labour. The natives of the Northern Territories refuse to accept the paper notes, which have, perforce to be offered to them. The paper currency is quite unsuited to climatic conditions, apart from other obvious considerations, and the inauguration of an alloy currency will be received with relief and thankfulness.

7. The Nickel Coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one-tenth of a penny—which, since its introduction into the Protectorate in June, 1913, had become so popular, and was rapidly banishing the native currency, (the cowrie shell, *cyprea moneta*), from the markets, has been impossible to obtain in sufficient quantities to meet the demand, owing to the war, with the result that the cowrie is reappearing and has become a considerable friction between the petty trader and the natives. The ordinary rate of exchange is 1,000 cowries for the shilling, but the money changers, who are, in most cases, the traders themselves, do all in their power to force it down to as low a point as possible. The procedure is simple. The trader refuses to accept silver for his goods and the native has to have recourse to the money changer, who, in collusion with the trader, will give the native no more than from 600 to 800 cowries for his shilling. This swindle was carried on to such an extent in the markets that the natives began to believe that our silver currency had depreciated in value and were not reassured on the point until repressive measures had been adopted against this form of speculation by the money changers.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

8. Trade Statistics are kept at Stations situated on the main Trade Routes of the Protectorate, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods became voluntary after the abolition of the caravan tolls and, as many caravans—mainly those made up of live stock—travel during the night, the figures given must not be regarded as in any way approaching accuracy as

an estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country, but merely as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be, for the year under review. The Trade Routes from the North running through Daboya to Kintampo, as well as others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics could be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti.

9. The Pandemic of Influenza that swept through the country and decimated the inhabitants of the Northern Provinces, selecting its victims from among the youth of the population: the cattle sickness in Haut Senegal Niger and the restrictions placed on the export of cattle through the Northern Territories by the French Authorities, have all contributed to disorganise the trade of the country, both North and South-ward.

10. The Imports, which mainly consist of Cotton and Woollen goods, Silk Handkerchiefs and lengths, Hardware, Haberdashery, Beads, Brass Rods, Tobacco, Tinned Provisions and Kola Nuts from Ashanti, have sustained a general decrease in direct ratio to that recorded in Exports.

11. Available statistics show a drop of 50 per centum in the number of Cattle driven through this Protectorate to Ashanti, as well as in the number of Sheep and Goats exported. The price of Cattle, Sheep and Goats has increased in proportion to the heavy fall in the number exported.

12. The total figures available under the heads Cattle, Sheep and Goats and Donkey Loads for the year under review show a falling off of no less than 21,189 from those of 1918.

13. The export of Native Cloth from French country shows a very large increase—6,417 loads as compared with 1,349 in 1918. This is undoubtedly due to the greatly enhanced prices now charged for English Cloths of a quality inferior to that sold before the war.

14. The Salt Industry, which is in the hands of the Addah traders of the Eastern Province of the Colony, has shown a considerable falling off. On their return journey from Tamale Port, which is situated on the White Volta River, two days East of Tamale, the salt traders load their canoes with fowls, shea-butter, native cloth, and a considerable number of horns of the bush cow and various species of antelope shot by the natives, which are reported to command a ready sale on the Coast.

15. Dried fish from the Niger and the Volta Rivers are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but the latter trade is in the hands of the Bator Tribe, who come up River from the Colony during the fishing season.

16. The exports of Shea-butter, extracted from the fruit of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, and of "Dawa Dawa", a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the locust bean, (*Parkia filicoidea*) has shown a slight increase over those of 1918.

AGRICULTURE.

17. The crops grown in the Protectorate during the year were good, owing to the more even distribution of the rainfall, and excellent harvests were the result. The area of land under cultivation shows a steady increase.

18. Several varieties of beans, ground nuts, guinea corn, maize, millet and rice are grown everywhere throughout the Protectorate, while yams are the favourite crop in the Southern, and Southern portions of the North-Eastern and North-Western, Provinces and are gradually working their way North. Cotton and tobacco are grown in large quantities for local consumption.

19. The breeding of a straight-backed species of Cattle commonly known as "Dagomba", and somewhat resembling small Jerseys, is carried on throughout the Protectorate, but under the most primitive conditions, and no attempt is made to improve the breed by selection. Periodical outbreaks of anthrax and pleuro-pneumonia decimate the herds, as no steps are taken to isolate the infected beasts. The beef of the "Dagomba" cattle is superior to that of the humped "Moshi" variety, but no venture has been undertaken on a large scale to compete with the French Moshi cattle traders in the Coomassie Market, although such Dagomba cattle as have been sold there realized excellent prices. A Veterinary Officer arrived at Tamale in October and has since then toured the country. The permanent establishment of this Department in the Northern Territories, with the inculcation of practical methods of improving the breed of Cattle and of arresting infectious diseases will undoubtedly open up an industry that will greatly benefit Ashanti and the Colony and may, in the future, render them independent of the present Moshi cattle supply. At present oxen are not made use of for ploughing, the hoe being the only implement employed for tilling the land.

Wire-haired Sheep, and Goats, are bred everywhere, and large flocks of Guinea-Fowl, scarcely distinguishable from their wild relatives, run free through most villages. Fowls are also reared and carried South in considerable quantities.

20. Lions continue to be a great nuisance and have levied a heavy toll on cattle during the year. This may be due to the scarcity of gunpowder; at any rate the natives complain bitterly of their inability on that account to protect their herds.

AGRICULTURAL STATION, TAMALE.

21. During the 1918—1919 Season 45 acres were planted with annual and 55 acres with perennial, crops—2 acres remained fallow.

The acreage under Cotton was reduced to $9\frac{3}{4}$ acres—7 acres of which were planted with Black Rattler and the remaining $2\frac{3}{4}$ with small plots of 3 varieties and 5 selections. The highest yield was 312 lbs from the "Manured" 1 acre plot of Black Rattler and the lowest 34 lbs per acre from one of the selections. The average of Black Rattler per acre was 151 lbs.

Sisal Hemp. 18,844 leaves, weighing 21,574 lbs, produced 922 lbs of dry fibre prepared by Prison labour.

An area of 16 acres was under leguminous crops, the highest yields per acre being pigeon pea, 490 lbs, and *Geocarpa* 788 lbs.

Ashanti maize was again a failure and so was Guinea Corn, due possibly to late planting, coupled with a paucity of rain. Wheat, planted in drills and ridges, germinated well but insects did much damage to the plants and those left died from a lack of rain. It would appear that, for success, irrigation for this crop should be resorted to.

Other food and annual crops—such as Cassava, Chinese yam, Sweet Potato, Rice etc.—were grown with varying success. Fish Poison, (*Tephrosia Vogellii*). A first crop from 1 acre, harvested in January, and a second crop, harvested in December, gave 303 lbs and 91 lbs of threshed seed respectively. There is a market for this product in England.

With the exception of the Teak plot, the sections devoted to timber cultivated are not making appreciable progress. The most forward Teak trees have seeded. Of nine acres, which proved useless for annual crops. $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres were planted at stake with Teak and $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres with Native Mahogany.

Fruit. Good crops of Bananas, Cashew, Guava, Limes, Mangoes and Pine Apples were obtained.

22. Sub-Stations. One each in the North-Eastern Province at Gambaga and the North-Western Province at Wa.

Food and annual crops grown. Dagarti bean, Cassava, Guinea corn, ordinary Ground nut, Millet, Pigeon pea, Sweet Potato, *Canavalia* beans, Cotton. Ashanti maize was a failure on both Sub-Stations, as was the case with Wheat.

Other Crops. Fish Poison and Sisal Hemp. Permanent Cultivation. *Acacia Decurrens*, *Eucalypti*, Kapok, Native Mahogany, *Strophanthus Hispidus*, Teak and various fruit trees.

23. Distributions to natives consisted principally of large numbers of seeds tubers, bulbils and plants of economic importance.

STOCK FARM.

24. The herd remained healthy during the year. Fifteen were disposed of in connection with the Peace Celebrations and 6 sold locally; the total sales amounting to £63. 1. 2. One cow died from the effects of a still-birth. Six female and 6 male Calves were born during the year. The herd now consists of 13 cows, 1 bull and 22 calves.

INDUSTRIES.

25. Apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments and iron hoes and axe-heads are manufactured with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

26. The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

MINERALS.

27. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were acquired have lapsed.

Specimens of surface Mica obtained from some extensive Micaceous outcrops situated in the South-West area of the North-Eastern Province were sent down to the Coast in 1918 and were favourably reported on. No further investigations of the outcrops have as yet been made.

III.—LEGISLATION.

28. Eleven Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor.

IV.—EDUCATION.

29. The Government Primary School at Tamale had a daily average attendance of 56, as compared with 57 in 1918. The number of pupils who attended the yearly examination was 63 and the results showed a marked improvement over those of the preceding year. One boy was sent to the Training College at Accra and two to the Agricultural Station, Tamale, as Learners. Three pupils from the Tamale School, who underwent a course of training at Accra and who were appointed Assistant Teachers at the Schools at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga in 1918, acquitted themselves with credit during the year under review.

30. Primary Schools were opened at Wa and Lorha in the North-Western Province, where the attendance was 50 and 48 respectively. The attendance at the Gambaga School in the North-Eastern Province was 40. In the case of each of these Schools parents continue to exhibit a marked reluctance to send their children for instruction from a distance, which necessitates the absence of the latter from their homes during the terms.

31. The Roman Catholic Mission School, (Pères Blancs), remained closed throughout the year owing to lack of funds.

32. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohamedans reside, instruct the children to read and write Hausa in Arabic characters, and in learning by heart passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

33. In addition to those Government Institutions which are mentioned under the heads of "Education" and "Judicial Statistics", there are Government Native Hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province; at Wa, Tumu and Lorha in the North-Western, and at Gambaga and Zouaragu in the North-Eastern Provinces, but, as the Medical Officers stationed at Wa and Gambaga are constantly travelling, these buildings are seldom occupied. The first two hospitals mentioned are permanent buildings constructed by the Public Works Department; the others are built of "Swish", or sun-baked bricks, and are thatch roofed, but little, if any, advantage is taken of them by the natives where Medical Officers are not in residence.

The following table shows the number of native cases treated during the year at the Tamale, Wa, Gambaga, and Salaga Hospitals :—

Hospital. ..	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Remarks.
Tamale ..	234	10,240	Operations under anaesthetic .. 30.
Wa	19	288	1.
Gambaga ..	10	842	Nil.
Salaga ..	—	—	No Medical Officer stationed here during the year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

34. The Force maintained its high standard of discipline and general efficiency throughout the year. On his return from leave in October, the Commandant was able to inspect all the Outstation Detachments with the exception of those stationed at Bole and Yendi.

There was no increase in the Establishment or change in the organisation of the Force.

PRISONS.

35. The Central Prison at Tamale is now in charge of the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, and a Native Keeper of Prisons, with the following staff:—One senior Warder, one second-Class Warder, and 27 Temporary Warders.

36. All prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at Outstations is maintained.

37. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was two hundred and eighteen, with a daily average number of 112 convicts. Only one prisoner escaped and he was recaptured.

38. Two executions for murder were carried out and there were three deaths.

The general health of the prisoners, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets and culverts and sinking wells, was good.

39. Prisoners' rations were purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons, and a prison farm, cultivated by the prisoners, supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity and cooked in the Prison, were provided for prisoners at a cost of 2½d for each man.

40. There are gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners, whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

41. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

42. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

43. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority ; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage and other civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioner's Court, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

44. The following is a comparative table of crimes in the Protectorate during the last four years :—

	1916	1917	1918	1919
The number of Offences reported to the Police	603	583	579	587
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	603	683	579	587
The number of Summary Convictions :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	93	71	102	101
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny ..	107	127	152	161
4. For Offences against Health etc. Acts	205	195	19	22
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts relating to Indentured Coolies	19	5	—	2
6. For other Offences	78	65	82	119
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	22	16	13	9
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny	10	12	14	6
4. For Other Offences	17	15	6	1
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	46	81	111	148
2. In the Superior Courts ..	4	19	11	24

This table includes all cases, 78 in number, that were dealt with in the Yendi District of Togoland. As many of the more serious offences are committed by wandering aliens it may be said of the inhabitants of this Protectorate that, taken as a whole, they are both amenable and law abiding.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

45. There were no deaths among the European Officials, and but 17 were placed on the sick list for periods varying from two to forty-five days, as compared with 80 in 1918. Three were invalidated from Tamale two suffering from Blackwater Fever and one from congestion of the Liver. There were, on an average, twenty officials stationed in the Northern Territories at the same time. The total number of Officials who were stationed in or passed through the Northern Territories during the year was 45, as follows :—Political—19, Medical—8, Gold Coast Regiment—11, Public Works Department—5, Northern Territories Constabulary—2.

46. Medical Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga.

The following occurs in the Acting Provincial Medical Officer's Medical Report for the year under review :—

"No Medical Officers were stationed in any of the other districts, of which there are eight, excluding Yendi, and seven of these stations have European Residents. There should be at least one Medical Officer at Tamale to enable the Provincial Medical Officer to travel. The stations are, on an average, about two or three days distant from each other and, during the rains, travelling is not only difficult and tedious but even dangerous in places and some time may elapse before an urgent message can reach a Medical Officer and before he can get to whoever is sick or injured and the delay may have serious consequences. The installation of a complete telegraph or telephone system between all stations, and the building of good motor roads so that Medical Officers could travel in their districts by motor cycle or car would enable them to receive urgent messages early and to travel rapidly all over the districts, economising time and carriers."

47. There were no deaths, or invalidings, among the Native Officials, of whom eleven were placed on the sick list—all at Tamale—for periods varying from 2 to 46 days. The average number of Native Officials stationed in or passing through, the Protectorate was 64.

NATIVE POPULATION.

48. The census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles, an average of 11.6 persons to the square mile. The census returns

for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect and Commissioners have been provided with census books in which the names of all villages are entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last census returns.

49. The general health of the natives of the Southern Province may be described as good. One thousand cases of minor sickness were attended to by the Medical Officer in villages surrounding Tamale.

50. Influenza continued its ravages in the North-Eastern Province up to the month of April 1919. The deaths recorded in this Province totalled 18,263 but are thought to have been much greater in reality, for the Commissioner reports that in many instances children were not included in the returns, while the true number of deaths at villages was sometimes withheld on account of the superstitious fears of the natives. Infant mortality is very high, as is the case in adolescence. In the Navarro-Zouaragu Districts alone it is recorded that of 8,856 children, born and alive at five years of age, only 2,912 survived after ten years.

51. In the North-Western Province, in addition to the Influenza scourge, a serious epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred in the Lorha District, to which it was fortunately confined owing to the prompt and energetic action of the District Commissioner and Medical Officer, who took effective steps to isolate the infected areas. Deaths from this disease are said to have totalled one thousand. Small-pox broke out in the village of Olo, but the Chiefs reported this with such promptitude that the village was isolated before the disease had time to spread.

52. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah", but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

WATER SUPPLY.

53. The water supply at Tamale, always inadequate, was generally improved with the establishment of a Training Centre. Ten wells have been sunk, but all are of the shallow variety and none are protected in the strict sense of the word, and but one or two are fitted with pumps.

54. The Dam, which was built across a valley near Tamale by voluntary native labour and in order to retain a large volume of surface water, was repaired in 1918, but, owing to lack of funds, not to a sufficient extent to guarantee its permanent stability.

55. The water supply at Outstations is fairly satisfactory.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

56. The following table shows the monthly rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last nine years :—

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
January ..	Nil	0·1	Nil	0·5	Nil	Nil	·28	Nil	Nil
February ..	Nil	·02	·72	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·12	·06	Nil
March ..	7·98	1·64	·72	1·63	5·65	1·54	1·54	1·28	4·74
April ..	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43	1·10	4·77	1·87	3·16	2·15
May ..	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56	8·66	6·00	4·85	7·29	5·66
June ..	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81	5·27	5·33	5·80	7·62	5·98
July ..	6·11	4·06	7·00	2·09	6·02	6·44	4·13	8·52	2·47
August ..	6·94	7·25	14·58	3·94	4·85	13·28	13·03	6·79	5·60
September	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85	8·34	4·63	16·62	3·42	8·53
October ..	1·50	3·87	2·29	4·77	2·66	2·71	3·24	3·70	2·71
November	·97	Nil	Nil	2·19	Nil	1·87	·29	1·89	Nil
December	Nil	·01	Nil	Nil	·10	Nil	Nil	·72	Nil
Total	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32	42·65	46·57	55·76	44·45	37·84

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

57. Post and Telegraph Offices are established at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji.

58. Owing to the shortage of qualified operators, the telegraph line between Kintampo, Bole and Wa would have remained closed had not the Commissioners' Clerks learnt the Morse Code and acted as operators. Communication is maintained between Tamale and Gambaga along the telegraph line by means of a telephone attachment.

59. Letters are received and despatched from all stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

60. Telegrams were received at, and despatched from, Tamale, as compared with the previous year, as follows :—

				Received		Despatched	
				1918	1919	1918	1919
Official	..	..	..	3,481	3,134	4,196	3,441
Private	..	..	..	814	882	1,146	1,054

61. The following Statistics show the business done in the Post Office, Tamale, as compared with that of 1918 :—

	1918			1919		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stamps sold	242	5	3½	304	5	5
Postal Orders sold	605	19	6	702	4	0
Poundage on same	8	12	4	10	9	8
Money Orders issued	246	10	7	325	4	9
Commission on same	2	17	3½	3	4	10½
Total	£1,106	5	0	£1,345	8	8½

Mails despatched South ..	131	bags and 14	packets
Mails despatched North ..	237	" "	16 "
Mails received South ..	298	" "	30 "
Mails received North ..	204	" "	27 "
	—		—
	870		87
	—		—

62. At Salaga, Postal Orders to the value of £184. 8. 3. and Postage Stamps to the value of £73. 19. 4 were sold, as compared with £143. 15. 0 and £53. 18. 0 during the previous year and, at Yeji, £231. 0. 5 and £42. 6. 0 as against £128. 4. 7 and £32. 8. 1.

IX.—RELIGION.

63. Three Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission, (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1908, were in residence during the year. The number of baptized native converts is now given as 239 while nine hundred natives attend the Mission.

64. Nothing has occurred to necessitate the amendment of the following, which first appeared in the Annual Report on this Protectorate for 1912.

65. The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census for 1911, were as follows:—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans..
133.	42,598.	319,075.

66. Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those professing its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province,

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Iman that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been revered by succeeding Imans ever since.

The Chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga; in the North-Eastern Province, Gambaga, Wale-Wale and Fawku; in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa and Wahabu.

67. Although the pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish," which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief Priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended, these "fetishes" are propiated by the sacrifice of sheep and goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish", usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "Lightning Fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No pagan would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

68. The relations existing between this Administration and our French neighbour and ally were cordial throughout the year and informal visits were exchanged between British and French Officials.

69. Peace Celebrations were held at all Stations in the Northern Territories on the 23rd of August and succeeding days and were attended by the local Chiefs and immense crowds of enthusiastic natives. The French Resident of Gaoua and his assistant, with a Detachment of Tirailleurs and several Chiefs, came into Lorha and took part in the Celebrations.

70. An Officer, drawn from the Political Staff of the Northern Territories, was stationed at Yendi, the Capital of Dagomba, throughout the year.

ADMINISTRATION.

71. The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate for the first five months of the year, when he proceeded on leave of absence. Major H. Walker Leigh continued to act for him until the end of the year.

72. The shortage of Administrative Officers throughout the year necessitated the administration of the Yeji District, in the Southern Province, and of the Zouaragu District, in the North-Eastern Province by the Commissioners of the Salaga and Zouaragu Districts respectively, while the Tumu District in the North-Western Province was administered during the last three months of the year by the Commissioner of the Lorha District.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

73. The year was one of profound peace and quietness throughout the Protectorate, and the relations existing between the Chiefs, the Administration, themselves and their people were most satisfactory and in all cases left little to be desired. Reported trouble among the natives of the Bawku District in the early part of the year proved, on investigation by the Chief Commissioner, to have been very much exaggerated; originating, as it did, in the action of three young men who defied the Commissioner and raised the War Cry while under the influence of native brewed liquor.

74. The old men, especially those living in the Northern Provinces, continue to be a thorn in the flesh of the Administration. They live in the past, oblivious of the miseries that they endured in their youth and before the advent of the whiteman, and remembering only the fact that everyman was a law unto himself and could murder, rape and loot with impunity so long as he was strong enough to protect himself. They retain a fanatical hatred for the Chiefs, whose rapidly growing authority is repugnant to them, and do all in their power to undermine it and to prevent the youth of the country from getting into touch with civilization. Strangely enough, the Influenza passed by these reactionaries of a past generation, who are, however, slowly dying out.

GOLD COAST REGIMENT, TAMALE.

75. The Training Centre, established at Tamale in October 1917, ceased to exist, as such, at the end of 1918, and its complement was replaced by "A" Company of the Gold Coast Regiment.

ROADS.

76. Existing roads were maintained throughout the Protectorate and new ones constructed to link up the larger villages. In this work the Commissioners have received great assistance from the Chiefs, who, to-day, look upon it as a personal disgrace if they have not good, well kept, roads leading to their villages.

The Main Road from Prang to Tamale is now under construction and repair as a Motor Road. This work is being carried out by the Public Works Department.

REST HOUSES.

77. There are 78 Rest Houses situated in the Southern, 115 in the North-Eastern, and 103 in the North-Western, Provinces. They are usually of the "Round House" type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds surrounded, in most cases, by thick "swish" walls. Their repair and upkeep is in the hands of the Chiefs.

FERRIES.

78. Two ferries under Government control and at which tolls are collected are situated on the Volta River at Yeji and the Dakar at its confluence with the Volta.

The Tolls for the year at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,230. 17. 6 as against £1,402. 5. 0 in 1918.

The takings at the Dakar River Ferry dwindled during the year, the total receipts being but £125. This Ferry was closed at the end of the year.

79. Steel Pontoons have been placed on the Pru River at Prang; on the Yamalaga River on the main road to Tamale; on the Nabugu and Nasia Rivers on the Tamale-Gambaga Road, and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo-Bole Road, in the Southern Province, but all these, including those at the Yeji Ferry, are practically worn out and are now weighted down with the cement used in their repair.

80. Two cable ferries, constructed and maintained by the French Administration, free of all tolls, are situated on the Black Volta River at the Baghari-Manoa and Meteor-Dapola crossings near Lorha. A wooden pontoon has been placed on the Konyokuom River in the Lorha District, at a spot where a large number of traders cross. Many other ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers—Black, Red and White—and some of their tributaries, and are worked by the local chiefs

TRANSPORT.

81. The Motor Lorry Service for the despatch of Government Stores runs from Coomassie to Attabubu, when loads are transported to Yeji by carriers and by the Volta River in canoes to Yapei, (Tamale Port), or alternatively, by carrier transport to Salaga and Tamale.

82. No permanent gangs are employed in the Protectorate for transport. The demand for carriers is extremely heavy in the Southern Province of the Protectorate, close on 3,000 natives having been so employed during the year.

83. Within the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces "post to post" —i.e. "stage to stage"—carriers are employed by the Commissioners when travelling. Natives so employed are away from their villages for only one day and the question of food supplies—often a serious question when permanent carriers are engaged—does not arise. Local carriers are paid at the rate of 6d per diem.

PUBLIC WORKS.

84. Owing to the system of rigid economy, as practised in this Protectorate from the commencement of the war and during the year under review, no works of sufficient importance for record were undertaken, but all buildings were maintained in a state of repair.

85. The Provincial Commissioner's House at Gambaga was struck by lightning on the 5th September, and was completely destroyed by fire. Fortunately no loss of life or property resulted.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

86. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate, where they take charge of the herds of cattle belonging to the local natives. A number of natives from Haut Senegal Niger travelled through the Northern Territories on their way to Ashanti, there to find employment.

87. There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie, commencing about the end of August. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but, in course of time, most of these find their way back to their country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

LABOUR.

88. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6d per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; nor can this be wondered at when so many of the natives have realized that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1s. to 2s. per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a daily rate of from 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d.

89. The shortage of Silver, and the substitution for it of a paper currency, has been already mentioned as having produced an adverse effect on the labour problem throughout the Colony and its Dependencies.

**SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS AND
OPENINGS FOR WHITE LABOUR.**

90. The climate of the Northern Territories, while similar to that of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, may be said, in comparison with them, to be more trying in its extremes. It possesses an insidious quality that lowers the vitality of Europeans and renders unduly prolonged residence on their part inadvisable and it is generally recognised that a period of recuperation in a more bracing and salubrious climate is necessary after a year's stay in the country.

There are no openings at present for white labour.

O. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

Tamale,

26th May, 1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1049	Ceylon	1919
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1083.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1057.)



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No. 1083.**BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.****ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920-21.*****I. FINANCIAL.**

The estimated Revenue for the year was £90,040, the actual amount collected was £101,764 11s. 6d., or £11,724 11s. 6d. in excess of the estimate.

This excess was due mainly to Customs, Posts, Rentals and Transfer Duty, and Export Duty on Cattle and Fees.

The estimated amount of Customs Duty was £19,000, the actual yield was £27,819 1s. 3d., as against £20,986 5s. 9d. in 1919-20; this is due to the increase in the total Customs Revenue of the Union of South Africa, of which we receive ·27622 per centum.

Posts yielded £2,479 11s. 1d. over the estimate; Rentals and Transfer Duty £752 12s. 0d., and Export Duty on Cattle and Fees £1,423 15s. 6d.

The estimated Expenditure was £89,622, and the actual expenditure amounted to £112,091 6s. 0d., or £22,469 6s. 0d. in excess of the estimate. The causes of this excess were, in the main, due to the high expenditure under the head "Police" due to the enhanced cost of clothing, saddlery, and equipment; also the augmentation of the War Bonus. The establishment of two new Magistracies at Ghanzi and in the Tuli Block caused most of the excess of £3,246 9s. 11d. on the vote "Public Works—Extraordinary."

The following figures show the Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
	£	£	£
Revenue ..	80,282	81,564	101,765
Expenditure ..	76,716	91,611	112,091

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Cattle, owing to the depression in their market value, were not exported to the usual extent during the latter part of the year; the natives find it difficult to understand the drop in prices, and do not sell unless obliged to enable them to pay their Hut Tax or to obtain the necessities of life.

A new port of exit for cattle has been established at Kazungula, and approximately 2,000 head of cattle were exported to North-Western Rhodesia.

*A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 857; [Cd. 7622-48].

The rains, generally, were late ; what rain there was at the beginning of the season was local and patchy, in consequence of which ploughing was commenced later than usual in most places. Despite this disadvantage, the crops are expected to be well up to the average this year.

The export of cream is still increasing, and the prices given for this commodity do not appear to have been much affected by the general trade depression.

The farmers in the Tati District are making a success of bacon-curing and cheese-making.

Four gold mines continue to be worked in the Tati District, and during the year 4,783 ozs. of gold and 479 ozs. of silver were recovered, the value obtained for it in South Africa being £20,175 12s. 5d.

III. LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Proclamations were published during the year. Besides those arising out of the Treaty of Peace, and certain Proclamations affecting Customs Duties and management, provision has been made for the Registration of Patents ; the Control and Inspection of Cinematograph Films, and other matters connected therewith ; the protection of certain mentally defective persons ; the restrictions on certain articles both exported and imported ; empowering the Resident Commissioner, with the approval of the High Commissioner, to appoint a Deputy as President of the Combined Court ; providing for the protection of natives of the Bechuanaland Protectorate in cases where they are sued on negotiable instruments or written acknowledgments of debt ; conferring certain rights on the South African Stud Book Association in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and making provision for the protection of such rights.

A new departure in the legislation of the country came into force during the year by the establishment of a European Advisory Council, its functions being, as its name implies, purely advisory on all matters affecting the European inhabitants of the Territory. The first meeting was held, over which the Resident Commissioner presided, at Mafeking, on March 2nd.

The Native Advisory Council, which commenced its sittings last year, was held again this year at Gaberones.

At both of these meetings a great many matters were beneficially discussed.

IV. EDUCATION.

Education in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is provided for both Europeans and natives. During the year under review there were seven schools open for Europeans, and education is progressing satisfactorily. The schools are now better staffed than

at any previous time. The Railway School at Mahalapye was closed during the year, but reopened in February last, when a qualified teacher was appointed. A school is soon to be opened at Tsessebe, in the Tati District, which will be of great help to the farming community, as hitherto their children had to be sent to school outside the Territory. Some of the farmers are at present in receipt of a grant from Government of £4 per child per quarter, limited to three children, towards education; but with improved educational facilities the continuance of such grants should hardly be necessary.

The Administration also assists European education on the £ for £ principle, either on revenue collected or on expenditure. This matter is decided when a school is being opened.

The European school at Francistown has so decreased in numbers, owing to the children either having left the District or gone to school in Rhodesia, that its continuance under existing conditions is doubtful.

The attendance at the native schools was larger than in the previous year, and there are signs that the Bechuana are waking up, and that there is the beginning of a new spirit in the matter of education. The native school at Serowe, in particular, is very largely attended, and the school building is the finest in the Territory.

The native schools are under the ægis of the Missionary Societies which receive an annual grant from Government, and this grant is allocated by them to the Reserves in which they work. There are also School Committees in three of the Reserves, presided over by the Magistrates, who pay periodical visits to the schools to show the teachers and scholars that education is a matter of interest to the Administration.

The Inspector of Schools visits the Territory once a year, and inspected 18 native schools during the year under review, 2,705 children being in attendance. In addition to the schools in the Reserves, nearly every small village prides itself on having a Sechuana school.

In April, 1920, the Hut Tax was raised to £1 3s. 0d., the extra 3s. going into what is known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate Native Fund, which is administered by the High Commissioner. This has done away with the voluntary contributions which hitherto were made by some tribes towards education which is now being assisted from this Fund.

The Government Grant in aid of Education during the year was £2,250, of which £2,156 was actually expended.

V. MEDICAL.

During the year 1920–21 the general health conditions throughout the territory were fairly good, and not marked by any special prevalence or severity of disease. There was an entire absence of

epidemics, including small-pox and influenza, and no unusual outbreaks of malaria have occurred within immediate, or been reported from remote, areas.

There has been, notwithstanding, an increase in the aggregate of cases of disease treated. This was partly due to the extension of the medical service, and partly to a growing appreciation of the benefits of curative and preventive treatment on in-stations, an increase which is likely to continue with improved facilities.

Two thousand eight hundred and forty-eight cases received outdoor treatment at Gaberones Hospital within the year ended. These included fourteen Europeans. As in the past, the great majority suffered from malaria, or conditions associated with it ; the rest from various medical and surgical ailments.

The indoor cases included eight Europeans and forty-five natives. Of the former, all recovered ; of the latter, three died ; one from malaria, debility or cachexia, and tuberculosis, respectively.

Two Medical Officers have been appointed, at Francistown and Serowe, within the period under review ; and two dispensaries, intended for the free treatment of venereal diseases, are in course of construction at the Stads of Kanye and Molepolole. With the facilities thus provided a considerable mass of the native population will shortly be brought within the reach of efficient medical treatment.

VI. VETERINARY.

Staff.—Mr. M. Cunningham, M.R.C.V.S., left the Service in May, 1920, and was replaced by Mr. F. M. Hill, M.R.C.V.S., who since that date has been stationed at Palapye Road.

Although there have been numerous changes amongst the Stock Inspectors and native Inoculators, the number remains the same as in the previous year.

Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (Lungsickness).—There has been a considerable decrease in this disease during the year, and the position now can be regarded as satisfactory.

Starting the year with 57,526 animals under treatment this number was reduced to 5,877 by the end of the year ; 30,412 animals were inoculated during the year ; 497 animals were destroyed in terms of Proclamation No. 2 of 1909 ; 336 animals died from the effects of inoculation. The sum of £519 18s. 10d. was paid in compensation for animals destroyed. As the result of experiments carried out during the year it was found that the addition of 25 per cent. glycerine to virus gave the best results.

With the fall in the number of susceptible cattle, the fear of the disease has diminished and it has become more difficult to control movements, but owing to the keen interest Chief Khama takes in the work of eradicating Lungsickness, and to the loyal assistance he has given to the Veterinary Department and to the Police, the results in his Reserve are gratifying.

Anthrax.—The number of outbreaks has considerably increased, as has been the case in other parts of South Africa. 14,521 animals were inoculated against this disease as against 4,909 last year.

Owing to outbreaks in the Quarantine Camps established for cattle on their way to the Union of South Africa, all animals entering the Ramathlabama and Sequani camps are inoculated.

In October the Veterinary Department of this Administration first used the "Spore" vaccine, and this has given the best results of any inoculation against this disease yet tried in the Protectorate.

The reaction to this inoculation is somewhat severe and lasts up to ten days, but there is no doubt that a strong immunity is set up.

Quarter-Evil.—This disease also shows an increase on previous years, there being 50 per cent. more vaccine used than in the previous twelve months.

The Department recommend the use of the single inoculation which appears to be quite as effectual as the double inoculation and is half the work.

Vaccines.—The following vaccines for the control of contagious animal disease have been obtained by this administration from the Veterinary Research Laboratory at Onderstepoort, and used in the Protectorate during the period under review :—

Anthrax Vaccine	..	..	..	14,521	doses.
Quarter Evil Vaccine	..	..	..	14,220	..
Blue Tongue Vaccine	..	..	..	560	..
Horse-sickness Serum and Virus for mules				86	..
Redwater and Gallsickness Vaccine	..			2	..

and in addition 3,700 doses of wire worm remedy were supplied.

Laboratory.—A small laboratory is in course of erection at Palapye Road and the building will be completed in a few weeks.

Exports.—32,450 cattle were exported from the Protectorate during the year. Of these 9,437 passed through Ramathlabama, 1,931 were sent *via* Northern Rhodesia to the Belgian Congo, thus opening up a new market, and the remainder were exported by rail to the Johannesburg Abattoir, while a few left through the Sequani Camp. In addition to this 15,086 small stock were exported through Ramathlabama.

VII. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The number of criminal cases adjudicated upon by officials of the Administration during the year 1920-21 was 434, as against 485 in 1919-20 and 423 in 1918-19.

There were six cases of culpable homicide, in all of which conviction followed.

There were also 41 cases of theft of stock, in 28 of which conviction followed as against 43 convictions in the previous year; 58 offences against property (other than stock theft), in 49 of which conviction followed; 73 offences against the person (other than homicide), with 64 convictions; and 320 prosecutions for other offences, in which 265 convictions followed.

Except in the case of homicide, the native chiefs exercise jurisdiction where members of their own tribes are solely concerned, and no record is kept of such cases.

•VIII. POSTAL STATISTICS

The administration and control of the postal service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is, subject to the authority of the Resident Commissioner, vested in the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa.

Offices.—There were fifteen offices in operation during the year ended on the 31st March, 1921, an increase of two during the year. Three of these are Money Order and Savings Bank Offices, five Post and Telegraph Offices and seven Agencies.

Money Orders.—The value of the Money Order transactions for the year shows a slight increase over the amount for the preceding year. 337 orders were issued of the value of £3,655 12s. 3d., as against 302 valued at £2,946 2s. 6d., and 177 orders valued at £1,304 0s. 7d. were paid out as against 198 valued at £1,157 12s. 3d. in the year before.

Postal Orders.—There is little variation from the figures for the preceding year. 10,839 orders were issued valued at £5,077 18s. 1d., and 3,154 were paid out with a value of £2,270 11s. 7d.; and the figures for the year before were issues, 10,468 valued at £5,248 9s. 4d., outpayments, 3,770 with a total value of £2,742 7s. 4d.

Savings Bank.—An appreciable increase is noticeable in the number of deposits made during the year and in the value of the sum deposited. 200 deposits were made valued at £1,755 4s. 0d., as against 131 valued at £952 5s. 0d. in the preceding year, and 52 withdrawals valued at £1,496 4s. 4d. as against 35 valued at £887 7s. 7d.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The total Postal Revenue from all sources amounted to £9,619 11s. 1d., being an increase of £2,035 0s. 2d. over the revenue collected during the corresponding period of 1919–20, and the expenditure for the year under review amounted to £4,259 0s. 7d. as against £3,989 1s. 7d. in the previous year.

IX. METEOROLOGICAL.

From the records taken at the various Magistracies throughout the Bechuanaland Protectorate, the average rainfall for the year is shown to be 25·52 inches.

The average annual rainfall, taken at two of the more central stations for the past 16 years, is 18·01 inches; the minimum for any one year being 7·10 inches and the maximum 32·52 inches.

It is generally accepted that 16 inches is a sufficient rainfall to ensure a good crop of mealies or kaffir corn, and even less if well distributed over the growing season.

The rains usually commence about the first or second week in November, and last until the third or fourth week in April.

Both early and late rains are an advantage—the former bringing on the young green grasses and softening the ground for native ploughing; and the latter carries the veldt on in a green state well into the winter and prolongs the water supplies in the vleis and water pools. An average rainfall is looked upon in many ways as better for the country than a heavy one; in the latter case the veldt grows long and coarse, cattle do not attain such good condition, and sheep do less well; the extra moisture, food, and cover cause snakes, mice, mosquitoes and other vermin to multiply to a greater extent, the disease of malaria is more prevalent and a greater number of deaths from horse-sickness are recorded.

During the winter following the rains the climate is a very pleasant one with clear sky, warm days and cold nights. About two months prior to the rains, however, the dryness of the country, combined with the heat and lack of vegetables, milk, etc., make it the least agreeable time of the year for Europeans. The natives, though not affected by the heat, suffer in many ways during this period; a great many of the vleis and water pools have dried up and the herds of cattle congregate at the more permanent waters, trampling out the veldt frequently for a radius of five, and even up to ten miles, necessitating long journeys to obtain their food; their cows are mostly dry, there is little milk and no green food, and such diseases as spotted fever, influenza, and ophthalmia, etc., get a firm hold when they appear.

The monthly average maximum and minimum temperatures for the year were as follows :—

	Month.	Maximum.	Minimum.
		° F.	° F.
1920	April	82·6	54·9
"	May	80·8	48·2
"	June	75·9	40·9
"	July	78·1	48·7
"	August	78·2	46·2
"	September	86·2	56·3
"	October	89·5	59·2
"	November	88·9	65·8
"	December	91·2	63·6
1921	January	89·1	63·9
"	February	84·3	61·8
"	March	82·7	62·6

The Bechuanaland Protectorate lies, roughly, between 2,000 and 5,000 feet above sea level, and only few people live at the cooler altitudes of from 4,000 to 5,000 feet. The portion of the country inhabited by the greater number of both Europeans and natives is adjacent to the only line of railway, which passes through the eastern side of the Protectorate for a distance of 403 miles—the average altitude of the stations and sidings along this section of line is 3,418 feet.

X. GENERAL.

A reconciliation has taken place between Sekgoma and his father, Chief Khama. They have been living apart for about twenty-five years, and Sekgoma now assists his father in the affairs of the Bamangwato Tribe, affairs which the Chief, owing to his great age, must feel increasingly arduous as time goes on. When one considers that he was a grown man when he hunted with Gordon Cumming, his age must be between ninety and one hundred.

A scheme for the prevention of grass fires was successfully inaugurated in the Tati District. The fact that this District is studded with small kopjes makes it possible to post fire-guards consisting of two natives each on kopjes at suitable intervals. These guards are able to see a grass fire directly it commences; it is then the duty of one of them to proceed immediately to the fire, collecting any available help on his way; the second guard proceeds to the nearest Headman, who voluntarily turns out his men, and in this way they have been able to extinguish all fires before they increased beyond

control. The clearing of fire-paths was found to be too great a task as fires have been known to cross the Tati River in a high wind on more than one occasion—a distance of approximately one hundred yards.

Two new Magistracies have been established, at Ghanzi and in the Tuli Block respectively.

Mr. Jules Ellenberger, the Government Secretary, proceeded to Ngamiland and the Ghanzi District on inspection duty, covering a distance of about 1,000 miles by ox wagon ; he was still absent on this duty at the close of the year under review.

R. M. DANIEL,
Acting Government Secretary.

31st March, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	"
1049	Ceylon	"
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

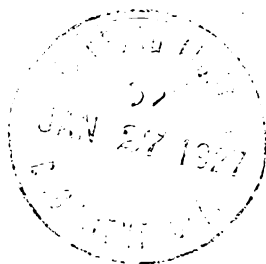
STATIONERY OFFICE REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1084.

ST. HELENA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1039.)



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S T . H E L E N A .

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) REVENUE.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of a grant-in-aid of £2,900, amounted to £10,225 12s. 0d., being £1,854 1s. 4d. more than in the previous year, and the largest amount collected since 1905. The increase was mainly due to a surplus over estimate on Customs owing to the arrival of two vessels carrying coal, which had to land their cargo here owing to fire.

Under "Miscellaneous Receipts" an increase of £910 15s. 0d. is accounted for by contributions from the Government Flax Mill and refund of passage money.

The revenue under the head of "Post Office" suffered, as was expected, in consequence of a decrease in the demand for stamps by philatelists.

(B) EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during the year amounted to £12,175 4s. 0d., or £742 18s. 9d. more than the total for 1919. Public Works Extraordinary came to £814 5s. 0d., as compared with £227 10s. 11d. in 1919. This excess was due to relief works taken in hand owing to post-war unemployment. The work done on the roads was, however, essential to their upkeep in any case.

(C) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On December 31st, 1920, the Colony's liabilities exceeded its assets by £422 3s. 5d., an improvement of £948 8s. 0d. in the Colony's financial condition, due to the surplus in the year's working.

Under Assets the sum of £4,494 1s. 6d. still stands against the wreck "Papanui," on which the Colony pays interest at bank rate. This is unsatisfactory, but the question is under consideration, and it is hoped that some satisfactory arrangement will be arrived at for the removal of this persistent charge against the Colony's revenue.

(D) CURRENCY.

Bills on the Crown Agents amounted to £16,574 11s. 3d. during the year. Imports of silver coin came to £500, and exports to £150.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) TRADE.

Revenue.

The Customs revenue for the year under report amounted to £4,424 16s. 2d., as against £2,838 4s. 9d. in the previous year, giving a substantial increase of £1,586 11s. 5d. in 1920.

This increase is due, partly to more labour being employed by the reopening of two Flax Mills (Government and "Broad Bottom") which had been closed down in the previous year, and the arrival towards the end of the year of two vessels with fire in their cargoes of coal; resulting in the coal being landed, and paying duty at 1s. 3d. per registered ton. The revenue derived from these two vessels amounting to £506. It is satisfactory also to record that small increases occurred under every sub-head of Customs Revenue.

Expenditure.

The Customs expenditure for 1920 amounted to £644 15s. 7d., as against ~~£487~~ 15s. 1d., showing an increase of £157 0s. 6d. This is more than accounted for by the refund of export wharfage overpaid on fibre and tow shipped during 1920. This refund amounted to £214 0s. 2d. as against £48 12s. 7d. in 1919.

Imports.

The total value of imports in 1920 amounted to £67,441, as against £44,084 in 1919, being an increase of £23,357 in 1920. This large increase in value is not only due to larger imports, but also to the greatly increased first cost of several articles. Increases in value appear under almost every item, mainly as follows: Beef and pork (salt), £585; beer, £550; butter and margarine, £481; tobacco, etc., £555; flour, £6,393; grain, seed and oilcake, £2,634; oilman's stores, £5,434; sugar, £2,503; spirits, £660; and wine, £406.

The principal decreases appear under leather, £184; lubricating oil, £156; paraffin oil, £342; rice, £500; stationery, £519; and tea, £183.

Rice could not be imported during many months in 1920, and the large decrease in stationery is mainly due to the Eastern Telegraph Company's Station here having installed automatic instruments which use less paper.

Exports.

The value of exports during the year amounted to £41,857, as against £30,878 in 1919, showing an increase of £10,979. This is principally due to more than double the amount of tow being shipped in 1920 than in the previous year.

Fibre and Tow Exports.

1919 :	603 tons valued at	27,108
1920 :	838 tons valued at	38,795

Giving an increase of £11,687

In addition 117 coils of St. Helena rope were exported, valued at £391.

(B) AGRICULTURE, STOCK, FORESTS, AND GARDENS.

The year under review was an unsatisfactory one from an agricultural point of view. The summer was exceptionally dry, only just over half-an-inch of rain falling in the two months November and December, and the winter was cold and dry. Crops altogether could only be described as fair.

Small growers suffered severely. One ton, 18 cwt. of seed potatoes were imported for their benefit, but, owing to the high cost in England, growers were able to purchase them in small quantities only. It appears very difficult to get the small farmers interested in production, and land generally is not efficiently cleaned for crops. Endeavours have been made to stimulate tree-planting, and a large number of seeds have been collected and planted in many localities. Fruit culture has been neglected, and this cannot be considered surprising in view of the immense amount of damage done to all kinds of fruit by the Peach Fly, a satisfactory antidote for whose depredations is much required. 1920, in fact, has been a year of insects, potatoes suffering badly from worm, and vegetables from grubs and caterpillars. There is no doubt that a larger quantity of many agricultural productions could be grown, such as mealies, beans, coffee, &c., which would tend to lessen the dependence of the people on imported food, and greater attention might profitably be given also to the breeding of pigs. Everything possible is being done to promote production.

The sale of fruit from the Maldivia garden, inclusive of the balance in hand on 1st January, 1920, amounted to £87 4s. 7½d., and the payments from this fund to £84 11s. 8½d.

The Government pasture lands at " Botley's Lay " produced a revenue of £80 8s. 1½d., against an expenditure of £75 9s. 4d.

The following average number of animals was maintained on the Lay in 1920 :—

Sheep.
372

Oxen.
33

(C) INDUSTRIES.

Fibre.—The Government flax mill worked for 186 days during the year 1920, as compared with 74 in 1919, producing 95 tons of fibre and 55 tons of tow, as compared with 40½ tons of fibre and 27 tons of tow in 1919.

The average prices obtained on the London market were £54 15s. 0d. per ton for fibre, and £36 15s 0d. for tow.

As may be seen from the comparative weights of fibre and tow, flax was still being cut much too young, and in spite of the satisfactory prices obtained the supply was even then so short that the mill was only able to be employed two or three days a week. This was most unsatisfactory, as it is impossible to make a profit, even with a good market, if labour costs are continuous and production intermittent. Freights also were extremely heavy, and will become prohibitive in the near future should any fall in the price obtainable for fibre take place.

As a result of the year's working, the mill's surplus of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1920, amounted to £9,195 15s. 11d. as compared with £11,374 12s. 10d. on the corresponding date of 1919. This shows an approximate decrease of £2,178 16s. 11d. This apparent loss in working is, however, largely accounted for by grants of £2,100 having been made to the Colonial Government from the mill during the year, viz., £400 towards the general revenue, £500 for relief works, and £1,200 to the general revenue; this last named amount having been sanctioned for the year 1918, not paid in during that year, but brought to the credit of the Colony's account in 1920.

Private Mills.—Messrs. Solomons' mill at Sandy Bay ran for 302 working days and milled 1,312 tons of leaves, producing 155 tons of fibre and 90 tons of tow. Their mill at Broadbottom worked for 126 days and milled 486 tons of leaves, producing 52 tons of fibre and 30 tons of tow.

Messrs. Solomon employed 95 males and 7 females at their two mills, while Messrs. Deason employed 82 males and 28 females.

Messrs. Deason Brothers' mill at "Hutts Gate" ran for 311 days during the year and milled 1,740 tons of leaves, which produced 140 tons of fibre and 110 tons of tow.

Lace.—Shortly after the departure of Sir Harry Cordeaux, in June, Messrs. Solomon established a lace dépôt in Jamestown, and at a later date a lady opened a lace stall there. In view of these efforts to conduct the industry by private enterprise, which were considered a step in the right direction, the Government Lace School has not reopened.

(D) SHIPPING.

The number of vessels calling at the Island during the year under review was 37, being nine more than in 1919. All of these were British, with the exception of three American, one Greek, and one Norwegian. The following war vessels visited the Colony: H.M. Ships "Lowestoft," "Birmingham," and "Dublin," also H.M. Tugs "St. Aubin" and "St. Bees."

In addition 26 vessels were sighted at the Station, of which number two traded with licensed traders.

Twenty-four vessels entered and cleared at the Port of James-town, shipping and discharging 7,426 tons, as compared with 3,848 tons in 1919.

The mail service was continued by the Union-Castle Company, whose vessels made 12 outward and 9 homeward calls.

III.—EDUCATION.

There are eight elementary schools in the island, of which three are Government schools.

The number of children attending these schools during 1920 was:—

		<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Government Schools	.. ..	125	136	261
Other Schools	.. ..	163	140	303

Attendance at all the schools was good throughout the year, and the Attendance Officer found no cases for prosecution under the Education Ordinance.

The manners of the children appeared exceptionally good, and they seemed to take great interest in their work. Classes for pupil teachers were held every week, and were well attended. At the termination of each quarter the usual examinations were held by the Acting Supervisor with satisfactory results.

The schools were also visited frequently by the Supervisor, who was satisfied with the progress made by the children. The health of the children was good throughout the year.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITAL.

There were 201 admissions to the hospital during the year, a decrease of 12 as compared with 1919. There were six deaths, being a percentage of 3 as compared with 2·8 in 1919.

(B) SAVINGS BANK.

On the 31st December, 1920, there were 141 depositors having accounts with the Government Savings Bank, as against 163 in 1919.

Cash deposits amounted to £1,273 12s. 1d., as compared with £3,094 3s. 7d. in 1919. This decrease may be accounted for by the public placing their money in the National Bank of South

Africa, where they obtain a higher rate of interest. The repayments to depositors amounted to £7,302 1s. 8d., as against £3,416 8s. 5d., an increase of £3,885 13s. 3d. This increase is due to the departure from the island of several substantial depositors, and others having transferred their accounts to the National Bank of South Africa.

On the 31st December, 1920, the sum of £11,073 6s. 3d. was standing in the Colonial Treasury to the credit of depositors, as against £16,680 7s. 3d. in 1919, a decrease of £5,607 1s. 0d. Stock to the value of £12,082 0s. 10d., cost price, was invested on the 31st December, 1920.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) CRIMINAL.

Supreme Court.—One case was tried in the Supreme Court during the year, as compared with four in 1919.

Police Court.—110 cases were dealt with in the Police Court, as compared with 76 in the previous year; most of these cases were for petty larceny, and 26 for non-payment of road tax.

No doubt thefts were caused to a very large extent by the very bad economic conditions prevalent during a great part of the year. The non-payment of road tax may be also traced to this cause. I hope to have a much more satisfactory account to render at the end of the present year.

£80 10s. was collected under Dog Tax, as compared with £70 10s. in the previous year. There were no prosecutions under this head, which rather goes to prove the opinion expressed above.

There were seven cases of whipping, five of them for theft.

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The cost of maintaining the gaol was £240 15s. 3d., which item, I hope, may show a considerable reduction in future.

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The importance of a properly qualified dentist being sent here at an early date cannot be over estimated. The state of the teeth of the vast majority of the population is very bad indeed. I understand that half the time of the Colonial Surgeon and his assistant is occupied in making extractions.

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The seasons generally may be said to have been similar to those of 1919.

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The following shows the direction of the wind :—

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Registered articles	1383	1289

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Bags of mails	83	99
Parcels	379	519
Registered articles	2015	2122
Insured letters	1	—

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The amount spent on the repairs and maintenance of main roads came to £908 14s. 4d., out of which the tax on fibre and tow contributed £341 5s. 1d.

I think the state of the roads generally may be considered fair, considering the small amount of money available for keeping them in order, and the hilly nature of the country. Efficient supervision of labour is badly needed, and the appointment of someone in the nature of a trustworthy ganger would be of immense benefit if funds were available for this purpose. In addition to the above sum £69 18s. was spent in keeping the streets in Jamestown in repair.

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Four grants of land, amounting to $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres, were made during the year for the purpose of flax planting. The value of land remains the same.

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From the following comparative table it will be noticed that the cost of the more essential foodstuffs shows a slight rise over 1919, especially in the case of bread, tea, sugar, and rice, which may be looked upon as the staple articles of food for the working man here. Sugar at one time rose to the unprecedented price of 1s. 6d. per lb. Fish, which is much bought by the poor, in lieu of meat, was also scarce and dear in 1920.

These inflated prices became an almost impossible burden to the breadwinners in the year under review.

	1919				1920			
Flour	5d. per lb.	..	4½d.	per lb.	
Bread	5d. per 1½lb.	..	7½d.	..	
Sugar	9½d.-10d. per lb.	..	1s. 3d.	..	
Dripping	2s. 8d.	..	2s. 0d.	..	
Tea	2s. 4d.-3s.	..	3s. 2d.	..	
Salt	2d.	..	2d.	..	
Rice	4½d.	..	5d.-5½d.	..	

I am very glad to say that there is every prospect of these prices becoming more normal in 1921.

The cost of clothing during the year was also abnormal, many people went barefoot who had never done so before.

Rate of Wages.—Towards the end of the year two vessels landed cargoes of coals on fire at Jamestown. This proved a veritable godsend to many of the labouring classes there, and employment on unloading coal at fairly good wages was provided for them for some two or three months.

It is the case that in the normal course of events much unemployment is chronic in the Island.

No. 1084.

ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) REVENUE.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of a grant-in-aid of £2,900, amounted to £10,225 12s. 0d., being £1,854 1s. 4d. more than in the previous year, and the largest amount collected since 1905. The increase was mainly due to a surplus over estimate on Customs owing to the arrival of two vessels carrying coal, which had to land their cargo here owing to fire.

Under "Miscellaneous Receipts" an increase of £910 15s. 0d. is accounted for by contributions from the Government Flax Mill and refund of passage money.

The revenue under the head of "Post Office" suffered, as was expected, in consequence of a decrease in the demand for stamps by philatelists.

(B) EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during the year amounted to £12,175 4s. 0d., or £742 18s. 9d. more than the total for 1919. Public Works Extraordinary came to £814 5s. 0d., as compared with £227 10s. 11d. in 1919. This excess was due to relief works taken in hand owing to post-war unemployment. The work done on the roads was, however, essential to their upkeep in any case.

(C) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On December 31st, 1920, the Colony's liabilities exceeded its assets by £422 3s. 5d., an improvement of £948 8s. 0d. in the Colony's financial condition, due to the surplus in the year's working.

Under Assets the sum of £4,494 1s. 6d. still stands against the wreck "Papanui," on which the Colony pays interest at bank rate. This is unsatisfactory, but the question is under consideration, and it is hoped that some satisfactory arrangement will be arrived at for the removal of this persistent charge against the Colony's revenue.

(D) CURRENCY.

Bills on the Crown Agents amounted to £16,574 11s. 3d. during the year. Imports of silver coin came to £500, and exports to £150.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) TRADE.

Revenue.

The Customs revenue for the year under report amounted to £4,424 16s. 2d., as against £2,838 4s. 9d. in the previous year, giving a substantial increase of £1,586 11s. 5d. in 1920.

This increase is due, partly to more labour being employed by the reopening of two Flax Mills (Government and "Broad Bottom") which had been closed down in the previous year, and the arrival towards the end of the year of two vessels with fire in their cargoes of coal; resulting in the coal being landed, and paying duty at 1s. 3d. per registered ton. The revenue derived from these two vessels amounting to £506. It is satisfactory also to record that small increases occurred under every sub-head of Customs Revenue.

Expenditure.

The Customs expenditure for 1920 amounted to £644 15s. 7d., as against £487 15s. 1d., showing an increase of £157 0s. 6d. This is more than accounted for by the refund of export wharfage overpaid on fibre and tow shipped during 1920. This refund amounted to £214 0s. 2d. as against £48 12s. 7d. in 1919.

Imports.

The total value of imports in 1920 amounted to £67,441, as against £44,084 in 1919, being an increase of £23,357 in 1920. This large increase in value is not only due to larger imports, but also to the greatly increased first cost of several articles. Increases in value appear under almost every item, mainly as follows: Beef and pork (salt), £585; beer, £550; butter and margarine, £481; tobacco, etc., £555; flour, £6,393; grain, seed and oilcake, £2,634; oilman's stores, £5,434; sugar, £2,503; spirits, £660; and wine, £406.

The principal decreases appear under leather, £184; lubricating oil, £156; paraffin oil, £342; rice, £500; stationery, £519; and tea, £183.

Rice could not be imported during many months in 1920, and the large decrease in stationery is mainly due to the Eastern Telegraph Company's Station here having installed automatic instruments which use less paper.

Exports.

The value of exports during the year amounted to £41,857, as against £30,878 in 1919, showing an increase of £10,979. This is principally due to more than double the amount of tow being shipped in 1920 than in the previous year.

Fibre and Tow Exports.

1919 :	603 tons valued at	27,108
1920 :	838 tons valued at	38,795

Giving an increase of £11,687

In addition 117 coils of St. Helena rope were exported, valued at £391.

(B) AGRICULTURE, STOCK, FORESTS, AND GARDENS.

The year under review was an unsatisfactory one from an agricultural point of view. The summer was exceptionally dry, only just over half-an-inch of rain falling in the two months November and December, and the winter was cold and dry. Crops altogether could only be described as fair.

Small growers suffered severely. One ton, 18 cwt. of seed potatoes were imported for their benefit, but, owing to the high cost in England, growers were able to purchase them in small quantities only. It appears very difficult to get the small farmers interested in production, and land generally is not efficiently cleaned for crops. Endeavours have been made to stimulate tree-planting, and a large number of seeds have been collected and planted in many localities. Fruit culture has been neglected, and this cannot be considered surprising in view of the immense amount of damage done to all kinds of fruit by the Peach Fly, a satisfactory antidote for whose depredations is much required. 1920, in fact, has been a year of insects, potatoes suffering badly from worm, and vegetables from grubs and caterpillars. There is no doubt that a larger quantity of many agricultural productions could be grown, such as mealies, beans, coffee, &c., which would tend to lessen the dependence of the people on imported food, and greater attention might profitably be given also to the breeding of pigs. Everything possible is being done to promote production.

The sale of fruit from the Maldivia garden, inclusive of the balance in hand on 1st January, 1920, amounted to £87 4s. 7½d., and the payments from this fund to £84 11s. 8½d.

The Government pasture lands at " Botley's Lay " produced a revenue of £80 8s. 1½d., against an expenditure of £75 9s. 4d.

The following average number of animals was maintained on the Lay in 1920 :—

<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Oxen.</i>
372	33

(C) INDUSTRIES.

Fibre.—The Government flax mill worked for 186 days during the year 1920, as compared with 74 in 1919, producing 95 tons of fibre and 55 tons of tow, as compared with 40½ tons of fibre and 27 tons of tow in 1919.

The average prices obtained on the London market were £54 15s. 0d. per ton for fibre, and £36 15s 0d. for tow.

As may be seen from the comparative weights of fibre and tow, flax was still being cut much too young, and in spite of the satisfactory prices obtained the supply was even then so short that the mill was only able to be employed two or three days a week. This was most unsatisfactory, as it is impossible to make a profit, even with a good market, if labour costs are continuous and production intermittent. Freights also were extremely heavy, and will become prohibitive in the near future should any fall in the price obtainable for fibre take place.

As a result of the year's working, the mill's surplus of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1920, amounted to £9,195 15s. 11d. as compared with £11,374 12s. 10d. on the corresponding date of 1919. This shows an approximate decrease of £2,178 16s. 11d. This apparent loss in working is, however, largely accounted for by grants of £2,100 having been made to the Colonial Government from the mill during the year, viz., £400 towards the general revenue, £500 for relief works, and £1,200 to the general revenue; this last named amount having been sanctioned for the year 1918, not paid in during that year, but brought to the credit of the Colony's account in 1920.

Private Mills.—Messrs. Solomons' mill at Sandy Bay ran for 302 working days and milled 1,312 tons of leaves, producing 155 tons of fibre and 90 tons of tow. Their mill at Broadbottom worked for 126 days and milled 486 tons of leaves, producing 52 tons of fibre and 30 tons of tow.

Messrs. Solomon employed 95 males and 7 females at their two mills, while Messrs. Deason employed 82 males and 28 females.

Messrs. Deason Brothers' mill at "Hutts Gate" ran for 311 days during the year and milled 1,740 tons of leaves, which produced 140 tons of fibre and 110 tons of tow.

Lace.—Shortly after the departure of Sir Harry Cordeaux, in June, Messrs. Solomon established a lace dépôt in Jamestown, and at a later date a lady opened a lace stall there. In view of these efforts to conduct the industry by private enterprise, which were considered a step in the right direction, the Government Lace School has not reopened.

(D) SHIPPING.

The number of vessels calling at the Island during the year under review was 37, being nine more than in 1919. All of these were British, with the exception of three American, one Greek, and one Norwegian. The following war vessels visited the Colony: H.M. Ships "Lowestoft," "Birmingham," and "Dublin," also H.M. Tugs "St. Aubin" and "St. Bees."

In addition, 26 vessels were sighted at the Station, of which number two traded with licensed traders.

Twenty-four vessels entered and cleared at the Port of Jamestown, shipping and discharging 7,426 tons, as compared with 3,648 tons in 1919.

The mail service was continued by the Union-Castle Company, whose vessels made 12 outward and 9 homeward calls.

III.—EDUCATION.

There are eight elementary schools in the island, of which three are Government schools.

The number of children attending these schools during 1920 was :—

			<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Government Schools	..	..	125	136	261
Other Schools	..	..	163	140	303

Attendance at all the schools was good throughout the year, and the Attendance Officer found no cases for prosecution under the Education Ordinance.

The manners of the children appeared exceptionally good, and they seemed to take great interest in their work. Classes for pupil teachers were held every week, and were well attended. At the termination of each quarter the usual examinations were held by the Acting Supervisor with satisfactory results.

The schools were also visited frequently by the Supervisor, who was satisfied with the progress made by the children. The health of the children was good throughout the year.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITAL.

There were 201 admissions to the hospital during the year, a decrease of 12 as compared with 1919. There were six deaths, being a percentage of 3 as compared with 2·8 in 1919.

(B) SAVINGS BANK.

On the 31st December, 1920, there were 141 depositors having accounts with the Government Savings Bank, as against 163 in 1919.

Cash deposits amounted to £1,273 12s. 1d., as compared with £3,094 3s. 7d. in 1919. This decrease may be accounted for by the public placing their money in the National Bank of South

Africa, where they obtain a higher rate of interest. The repayments to depositors amounted to £7,302 1s. 8d., as against £3,416 8s. 5d., an increase of £3,885 13s. 3d. This increase is due to the departure from the island of several substantial depositors, and others having transferred their accounts to the National Bank of South Africa.

On the 31st December, 1920, the sum of £11,073 6s. 3d. was standing in the Colonial Treasury to the credit of depositors, as against £16,680 7s. 3d. in 1919, a decrease of £5,607 1s. 0d. Stock to the value of £12,082 0s. 10d., cost price, was invested on the 31st December, 1920.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) CRIMINAL.

Supreme Court.—One case was tried in the Supreme Court during the year, as compared with four in 1919.

Police Court.—110 cases were dealt with in the Police Court, as compared with 76 in the previous year; most of these cases were for petty larceny, and 26 for non-payment of road tax.

No doubt thefts were caused to a very large extent by the very bad economic conditions prevalent during a great part of the year. The non-payment of road tax may be also traced to this cause. I hope to have a much more satisfactory account to render at the end of the present year.

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Sugar	$9\frac{1}{2}$ d.-10d. per lb. ..	1s. 3d. ..
Dripping	2s. 8d. ..	2s. 0d. ..
Tea	2s. 4d.-3s. ..	3s. 2d. ..
Salt	2d. ..	2d. ..
Rice	$4\frac{1}{2}$ d. ..	5d.- $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. ..

I am very glad to say that there is every prospect of these prices becoming more normal in 1921.

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Rate of Wages.—Towards the end of the year two vessels landed cargoes of coals on fire at Jamestown. This proved a veritable godsend to many of the labouring classes there, and employment on unloading coal at fairly good wages was provided for them for some two or three months.

It is the case that in the normal course of events much unemployment is chronic in the Island.

Having regard to the fact that there is no provision for old age and infirmity outside the Poor House in this Colony, I should like to mention the work of the Redgate Food Depôt in aid of the aged poor, which is supported by voluntary contributions and worked by a small committee of whom Mrs. Peel is President. During the year, 58 old men and women—principally women—have been given a ration of food every Friday; this food is probably of great assistance to many almost starving families over the end of the week.

Special thanks are due to the subscribers to this most deserving institution.

Such temporary measures of relief as can be provided here are, after all, only palliative, and must be regarded as such.

I am glad to say that more interest is now being taken in producing foodstuffs in gardens, which will all tend to make the labourers more self-supporting.

(D) DEPARTMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The expenditure for the year under "Works Recurrent" amounted to £2445 7s. 5d., of which £908 14s. 4d. was spent on rural roads, together with a grant from the Government Flax Mill of £500 to relieve distress, which was similarly expended.

Poor Board.

The revenue of the Poor Board for the year amounted to £824 6s. 9d., and the expenditure to £837 18s. 7d., as compared with £723 11s. 5d. and £718 8s. 4d. respectively in the previous year.

Public Market.

The Market continued under the supervision of the Board of Guardians. The revenue amounted to £18 7s. 2d., and the expenditure to £16 18s. 3d. during the year.

(E) MISCELLANEOUS.

In June of the year under review Major H. E. S. Cordeaux, C.B., C.M.G., left the Colony, having been appointed Governor of the Bahamas. On his departure Major H. G. St. G. Morgan administered the Government until my arrival in November.

Mr. J. J. Phillips, Crown Prosecutor and Police Magistrate, was transferred to St. Kitts, and left the Colony in November, the duties of Crown Prosecutor being carried on temporarily by the Colonial Treasurer and Chief Clerk.

Dr. W. J. J. Arnold, Colonial Surgeon, who had been granted special leave for service during the European War, returned to St. Helena in May.

The year was, from an economic standpoint, similar to the previous one with regard to the high cost of living, the main essential foods, imported chiefly from South Africa, being very expensive, and making the task of supporting their families extremely difficult for the poorer classes.

From an agricultural point of view, also, seasons were unsatisfactory. Crops were not good, especially potatoes, on which the people are now beginning to rely owing to post-war conditions.

ROBERT F. PEEL,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Castle,
St. Helena,
29th June, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1049	Ceylon	1919
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1919-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands... ..	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda... ..	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territory of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria... ..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

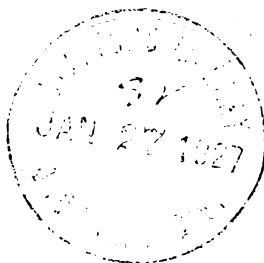
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1085.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1045.)



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No. 1085.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920-1921.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1921, amounted to £226,323, an increase of £26,438 on the preceding year's revenue. The increase was mainly accounted for by customs receipts, which showed an excess of £23,572 on the preceding year's figures.

The ordinary expenditure incurred during the year amounted to £241,530. From accumulated surplus balances a further sum of £11,423 was expended on works of a permanent nature. The total expenditure amounted to £252,953 and exceeded the revenue by £26,630.

Compared with the preceding year the ordinary expenditure shows an increase of £48,669. The additional war allowance authorised to officials of this Administration during the year and the enhanced cost of uniforms and equipment, drugs, rations, etc., are responsible for the increased expenditure.

The following figures denote the total revenue and expenditure during the past three years:—

<i>Revenue.</i>					
1918-19.		1919-20.		1920-21.	
£191,426	..	£199,886	..	£226,323	
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
£180,923	..	£202,441	..	£252,953	

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities on 31st March, 1921, amounted to £102,370 3s. 1d., of which sum £72,500 was on loan to the Swaziland Administration.

TRADE.

The following is a return of the exports and imports from and into the Territory during the calendar year 1920, the figures for 1919 being also given.

Imports.

	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Merchandise	—	£ 1,069,393	—	£ 1,091,840
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc... ..	637	6,025	476	3,608
Cattle	2,032	12,045	447	2,429
Sheep and Goats	1,096	1,039	190	174
Grain :—				
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	Muids. 2,013	4,351	Muids. 1,624	4,996
Maize and Maize-meal ..	25,424	26,004	41,526	54,445
Kaffir Corn	11,282	11,635	15,339	23,089
Other Produce	—	6,545	—	406
Government Imports.. ..	—	1,137,037	—	1,180,987
	—	*	—	38,401
TOTAL IMPORTS	—	1,137,037	—	1,219,388

* No figures for 1919.

Exports.

	1919.		1920.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	207	£ 2,687	270	£ 2,784
Cattle	11,636	98,965	12,290	106,284
Sheep and Goats	240	291	2,155	2,622
	Muids.		Muids.	
Kaffir Corn	32,333	32,843	19,119	26,553
Maize and Maize-meal	52,134	44,911	28,754	21,352
Wheat and Wheat-meal	256,154	357,278	88,695	218,386
Oats, Barley and Rye ..	3,477	1,794	110	108
Beans and Peas	7,275	7,779	3,098	4,763
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Hair, Angora	2,245,749	213,039	2,259,741	112,358
Wool	10,083,556	593,742	10,030,954	418,785
Hides	196,251	11,684	210,960	9,690
Skins, Sheep	384,778	14,354	375,489	11,903
Miscellaneous	—	752	—	1,450
Total Value of Exports	—	1,380,119	—	937,038

It could hardly have been expected that the trade returns for the year ending 31st December, 1920, would reach the figures of the preceding year, and it is not encouraging to find that the balance of trade against the territory, for the period now under

(4100) Wt. 16668/622 625 9/21 Harrow G.75.

(4628) Wt. 19864/737 125 11/21 Harrow G.75.

review, amounted to no less than £282,350, as compared with a balance in favour of the territory for 1919 of £243,000.

Only two reasons can be suggested in explanation of this unfortunate reverse in the financial position. First, the heavy decline in the value of our exports, amounting to £443,081, the chief items contributing to the shortfall being :—

Wheat.—£138,892, showing a decrease in quantity of 65 per cent., and in value of 38·8 per cent.

Angora Hair.—£100,681, with an increase in weight of ·6 per cent., but a decrease in value of 47·2 per cent ; and

Wool.—£174,957, with only a decrease in weight of ·5 per cent., but a falling off in value of 29·4 per cent.

It may be as well to state here that the reason why Angora hair shows such a much heavier percentage of loss than wool is because sheep are shorn twice a year, and probably the autumn clip was disposed of before the drop in price ; whereas goats are shorn only once a year, in the spring, and the bulk of the clip had to bear the full effect of the fall in value.

The remaining articles exported do not appear to call for special comment, being slightly more or less in value as compared with the previous year ; but it may be asked why such articles of native food as Kaffir corn and maize were exported to the value of £48,000, when it was necessary to import food of the same nature to the value of £78,000. The answer is that transport from one district to another is not only costly, but generally unprocureable when most required, and it follows that it would cost more to convey grain from the northern districts, where the crops are usually more abundant than in the south, than to bring in their requirements from farmers in the Union of South Africa living on the southern boundary.

The second reason for the reverse in the financial position will probably be found in the fact that imports, instead of decreasing, more than two years after the war in Europe had ceased, actually exceeded the figures for 1919 by over £72,000.

Labour.—It has never been possible to get a correct estimate of the value of the native labour asset, but it must not be forgotten that, owing to the closing down of the diamond mines, a very considerable number of native labourers have returned to their homes, so that a large amount of money which formerly came into the country from that source will be lost for the time being, thereby further reducing the purchasing power of the population.

The prospect for the immediate future is, therefore, taking all the above facts into consideration, by no means encouraging, and it would be foolish to look for any improvement in trade prospects for some considerable time. It must not be forgotten, however, that South Africa in general, and Basutoland in par-

ticular, have always shown extraordinary powers of recuperation. The country has passed through many previous depressions, and, with patience and courage, will recover from its present difficulties.

EDUCATION.

The average daily attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now over 23,400, while the total number of pupils on the roll exceeds 32,500.

The total average attendance in schools and institutions during 1920 was 23,479, as compared with 21,160 and 22,556 in 1918 and 1919 respectively.

The following grants were made to Missions for schools and other educational institutions :—

Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	£ 14,359
Church of England Mission	2,339
Roman Catholic Mission	3,524
	<u>£20,232</u>

This total compares with £19,310 for 1919.

Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

Mission.	Over 200	150- 200	100- 150	70- 100	60- 70	45- 60	25- 45	20- 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society ..	1	6	33	48	31	52	89	18	22	300
Church of England ..	—	1	2	8	7	6	19	9	6	58
Roman Catholic ..	—	6	7	8	3	9	14	10	2	59
	1	13	42	64	41	67	122	37	30	417

From this table it will be seen that there are now more than 400 schools receiving grants. In another year it is possible that the number will reach 500 or more. For the financial year 1920-21 there will be 464 schools on the official list (grant-earning), and there are more than 50 others already notified as qualifying for grants.

From these figures it is sufficiently clear that Basutoland is now, from a numerical point of view, fairly well supplied with schools, but the problem of improving the character of the education given in these schools is a very perplexing one under the present financial conditions.

There are three directions in which improvement is desirable, but, unfortunately, to proceed in any one of these directions would involve considerable expenditure.

First, it is desirable to fill up vacancies with a better type of teacher than is being obtained at present. But the only way to attract better candidates for a post is to offer higher remuneration. Even in the recent advances in the rate of pay a teacher's salary does not compare favourably with the pay to be obtained elsewhere. As salaries constitute about 90 per cent. of the expenditure, even a small increase to the individual would mean a large total increase in the grant.

Secondly, it is desirable to provide schools with better furniture and equipment, but to provide four or five hundred schools merely with what is usually regarded as essential school equipment would demand a large outlay.

In the third place, greater efficiency could be secured if further Government supervision were exercised; but to increase the present department till it bore some relation to the magnitude of the work before it would also entail considerably increased expenditure.

Under these circumstances it is clear that educational progress is strictly limited by financial considerations, and until funds are available for the three essentials outlined above no radical alteration in the present system can be effected.

There is, however, one comparatively inexpensive way in which the scope of the schools may be widened, and that is by using them as centres for spreading information on matters which have a larger field of utility than the ordinary school subjects. A step in this direction was taken at the beginning of 1921, when the free distribution was approved of copies of the magazine of the South African (Native and Coloured) Health Society among some 500 head teachers. It is hoped that this policy of propaganda may be extended in other equally useful directions.

Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1919.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Missionary Society	7,841	14,376	22,217	7,974	15,441	23,415
Church of England	1,194	2,292	3,486	1,195	2,443	3,638
Roman Catholic	1,047	3,472	4,519	1,088	3,753	4,841
	10,082	20,140	30,222	10,257	21,637	31,894

This shows an increase of 1,672.

Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institutions.	Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, Dec., 1919.			No. of Pupils on Roll, Dec., 1920.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija ..	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	174	—	174	155	—	155
Th. Morena	"	—	84	84	—	74	74
Leloaneng..	"	19	—	19	31	—	31
Masite ..	Church of England	20	—	20	23	—	23
Maseru ..	"	—	28	28	—	28	28
Roma ..	Roman Catholic ..	132	256	388	120	259	379
		345	368	713	329	361	690

Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending Dec., 1919.			Year ending Dec., 1920.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society	5,787	10,124	15,911	5,798	10,677	16,475
Church of England	860	1,638	2,498	839	1,713	2,552
Roman Catholic	805	2,661	3,466	879	2,943	3,822
	7,452	14,423	21,875	7,516	15,333	22,849

European Schools.

No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1920.

Maseru	44
Morija	7
Mafeteng	16
Mohales Hoek	23
Teyateyaneng	12
Leribe	12

114

These schools do not go beyond the elementary stage, and most pupils continue their studies at schools outside the territory.

VETERINARY.

During the past year anthrax has been more prevalent than usual, and altogether 6,852 animals have been inoculated with very good results. The instructions respecting the burial of anthrax cases are still disregarded to a considerable extent, and unless this is carried out more efficiently we can confidently look forward to no abatement of outbreaks. Legislation giving

greater control to Government officers and providing penalties for the infraction of orders is now under serious consideration, and it is hoped that it will be issued early in 1921.

Owing to the favourable outlook of east coast fever on our eastern border, all east coast fever guards have been discharged, and this border has now reverted to ordinary police control. The stock inspector who was in charge of this work has been seconded to the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration.

The territory has been remarkably free from quarter evil, and only 330 doses of vaccine have been issued.

Equine Strangles has, as usual, been prevalent, but for the most part of a mild type, and acute cases have for the most part responded to inoculations.

Biliary fever in equines has been very prevalent at Maseru, and 43 animals have been successfully inoculated and treated against this debilitating disease.

During the year 188 slides have been examined microscopically, and most of these have been suspected cases of anthrax.

The export of cattle at Qacha's Nek has considerably decreased, owing to the slump in slaughter stock ; 1,843 head were exported, as against 8,089 during the year ended 31st March, 1920.

At the Maseru tank 202 cattle and 58 horses were dipped, chiefly for mange and lice.

Stud.—The drought conditions of the previous year persisted and very seriously interfered with horse-breeding endeavours, as without a good supply of green food it is difficult to stint mares, and newly-born foals are bound to be adversely affected owing to the shortage of mothers' milk.

During the past season 172 live foals were born to Government sires, and of these 83 were born in the Maseru district. The stallions "Tory" and "Shushu" were sold on account of old age, and the thoroughbred horses "Elf King" and "Physician" were purchased in their place.

Drought interfered with the holding of agricultural shows, and shows took place only at Leribe, Mafeteng, and Maseru. Despite the adverse conditions of the season, the Maseru show was considered the best one ever held at that centre.

AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Officer, Mr. L. F. Wachter, returned from war leave in January. He had been absent since June, 1915, and while he was away the development of the agricultural and tree planting activities of the Government was practically suspended, though tree nurseries were maintained and a certain amount of planting done.

During 1920 the money available on the estimates did not admit of any fresh work being started in tree planting and donga prevention, and the Agricultural Officer was mainly concerned in getting existing donga work repaired, planting new trees to replace dead ones, and in getting the tree nurseries into good working order.

Tree nurseries are maintained at each of the seven Government camps and also at the sub-district station of Butha Buthe. There were approximately 136,000 young trees on hand at the end of 1920 in the nurseries, and some 48,000 were issued to whites and natives during the year.

Articles on mealie growing, ploughing, donga prevention, wheat growing, and on the eradication of noxious weeds have been written in Sesuto and published in the native newspapers, and there are fair signs of a greater interest being taken by the natives than previously.

During the latter half of the year the Agricultural Officer took over the management of all farming operations at the Leper Settlement, about four miles from Maseru.

MOVEMENT OF INHABITANTS.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year ended 31st March, 1920 :—

		Labour.		Visiting and Miscellaneous.		Total.
1919-20	.. ..	45,740	..	70,673	..	116,413
1920	.. ..	58,305	..	103,999	..	162,304

GAOLS AND CRIME.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the territory, and during the year 1,541 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 1,525 during the year 1919-20.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1919-20 was 125, as compared with 151 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 195 as compared with 171 in 1919-20.

POST OFFICE.

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £7,859 16s. 8d., as compared with £6,676 12s. 2d. for the year 1919-20.

The expenditure amounted to £9,625 10s. 8d., as compared with £7,975 17s. 1d. for 1919-20.

The number and value of deposits and withdrawals in and from the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years are shown in the following table :—

	Deposits.	Withdrawals.
1919-20 ..	1,696 value £10,843	592 value £9,281
1920-21 ..	1,337 „ 8,778	566 „ 9,950

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

	Issued.	Paid.
1919-20 ..	32,505 value £38,310	28,724 value £38,498.
1920-21 ..	28,371 „ £32,551	24,834 „ £36,002.

MEDICAL.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

Typhus Fever may now be regarded as endemic in the territory. During 1920 cases were recognised as far north as Teyateyaneng. Contrary to the usual experience in this disease cases were more numerous in the early summer than in the winter months. There were 547 cases and 94 deaths.

The problem of dealing with typhus in a native territory like Basutoland, where a large proportion of the inhabitants are domiciled in remote mountain villages, is beset with difficulties. First and foremost is the factor of the wide prevalence of the body louse which is regarded by the people as a natural parasite, and they fail to understand why a parasite which has always been with them should be a source of disease.

The overcrowding which obtains in most huts, the habit of visiting neighbouring villages and congregating for beer drinks and local court cases are also potent factors in the spread of the disease.

It has often been possible to trace outbreaks to travellers who have visited infected centres which are nominally in quarantine. There is a certain resistance to restrictive measures coupled with indifference on the part of those who are not immediately concerned. Their cry is for medicine.

Propaganda in regard to the danger of lice has had little or no effect. The people either will not or cannot understand the important role played by these parasites. Yet the eradication of the disease depends on the delousing of the population. It is estimated that at least four-fifths of the population (equal to 400,000 souls scattered over an area of 11,700 square miles) are lousy.

Small Pox.—No cases were recorded during the year.

Enteric Fever.—Three hundred and sixty cases were reported, 182 cases admitted into hospitals, with 31 deaths. It is considered that many of these cases were really cases of typhus and mistaken for typhoid. As all clothing of fever cases admitted into hospitals is carefully disinfected, in no instance was there a spread of the infection.

Six thousand and sixty seven people were inoculated against typhoid, but early in July, owing to the presence of typhus in areas where typhoid co-existed in isolated cases, the inoculations were discontinued as it was felt that the gathering of numbers of people from villages possibly infected with typhus might lead to further spread of that disease.

Whooping Cough was fairly common, especially in the winter months, but no deaths were recorded.

Tuberculosis was less in evidence than in previous years.

Leprosy.—One hundred and eleven cases presented themselves at the outpatient departments and were sent to the leper asylum. No other epidemic diseases call for special notice.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

There is no outstanding feature during the year, which has been a quiet and uneventful one. The majority of the patients are reconciled to their lot, and are contented and happy. More ground has been broken up for them, and most of the able-bodied men have been given gardens to cultivate. A certain number of the women have also got lands. The great difficulty at present is to find suitable labour for many of the women patients who are unable to do hard manual work.

The general health has been good on the whole. The Medical Officer has been using sodium morrhuate on a considerable number of cases, and he reports that, although it is not a specific, it improves the body-weight and well-being of the patients, and thereby tends to keep the disease in check.

The institution is handicapped for the want of a fully equipped laboratory, which it is hoped to remedy in the coming year.

The water supply is still very inadequate, and causes great inconvenience during the last four months in each year, and at a time when a plentiful supply is absolutely necessary.

On 31st December, 1919, there were 372 patients in this institution—178 males and 194 females. On 31st December, 1920, the number was 414—176 males and 238 females—an increase of 42.

Six men and three women were discharged as arrested cases. There were 14 births.

GENERAL.

The appointment of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught, as High Commissioner in succession to Earl Buxton was a sincere pleasure to the Basuto. His Royal Highness assumed duty on 20th November, 1920.

The Fifteenth Session of the Basutoland Council was held from 3rd July to 22nd July, 1920. The following are the principal subjects which were discussed :—

1. Burweed eradication. The Agricultural Officer delivered an address as to the need for eradicating this and other noxious weeds. The Paramount Chief spoke strongly of the duty of chiefs to see that this work was not neglected, and said he would appoint inspectors later to go round the districts and report what was being done.
2. Proposed increase of 10s. in the native tax, which is at present £1 for each wife. The Government subsequently reduced the increase to 5s. This led to lengthy discussion, in which numerous suggestions were submitted by the natives for increasing the revenue in other directions. The increase was eventually accepted.
3. Visit of the Paramount Chief to England in 1919. Further discussion took place on this subject, principally from the aspect of the possibility of incorporation in the Union of South Africa.
4. Proposed proclamation bringing Basutoland into line with other countries as regards the protection of girls under 16 and mentally deficient women. The Council were against the proposed law, on the ground generally that it would lead to confusion with the existing native law.
5. Establishment of a " Council of Commons." This was a suggestion submitted for a council on an elective basis, as opposed to the existing nominated Council. The majority of the council were against the motion.

The Council passed a resolution expressing sorrow at the departure of Lord Buxton and pleasure at the appointment of His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught.

During the Council the Resident Commissioner presented the Medal for Meritorious Service to Chief Lerotholi Mojela. The medal was gained as the result of meritorious service with the Native Labour Contingent in France during the late European War.

The death took place on 12th July, 1920, of Charles Edward Boyes, C.B.E., Deputy Resident Commissioner. Mr. Boyes had

been in the service since 1888, and his death was a great loss to the Administration and the territory generally. Mr. J. P. Murray, Government Secretary, was promoted to the vacant office of Deputy Resident Commissioner, and Mr. R. M. Bosworth Smith, Assistant Commissioner, to that of Government Secretary.

The death of another old Basutoland official, Thomas Ponsonby King Kennan, took place on 18th September, 1920. Mr. Kennan joined the service in 1884, and retired on pension as Assistant Commissioner in 1905. He rejoined the Administration in 1916 as Assistant Commissioner at Quthing, thereby enabling the Government to release an officer for War Service. Mr. Kennan acted for a period of some months in 1919-20 as Deputy Resident Commissioner and again retired on pension on 1st September, 1920. His unrivalled experience of native affairs always proved of the greatest assistance to the Government.

With the exception of the Leribe District, native affairs throughout the territory have been conducted on the usual peaceful lines. In the Leribe district Chief Jonathan still continued to fail to preserve order among his various sons and other relatives. In April the Chief expressed a wish to be allowed to abdicate in favour of his brother Motsoene. He made the request on account of his great age and increasing infirmity; but when called to a national pitso before the Paramount Chief, for the purpose of settling his position, he withdrew the request, and there has consequently been no change. During the year numerous faction fights took place in Jonathan's ward, most of which arose as a result of the Chief's indolence in settling disputes; guns and other weapons were used, and 8 natives were killed and some 10 wounded, while numerous huts were destroyed. The Government took strong steps to bring Jonathan to a proper sense of his responsibilities, and the position became appreciably better towards the latter part of the year.

Mokhotlong, the most isolated white police post in the territory, situated in the North of the Qacha's Nek District, has been created a sub-district for revenue purposes, similar to those at Butha Buthe and Peka in Leribe District. The staff consists of a white police officer, 13 native police, and one native assistant interpreter. During the year under review over £4,000 revenue was collected, and apart from increased facility for the collection of revenue, the establishment of the sub-district is a boon to the natives in that area, who previously would have to undertake a journey of four days on horseback in a very mountainous region to pay their taxes, etc., at the Government office in Qacha's Nek.

R. B. SMITH,

Government Secretary,

Basutoland.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1086.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1049.)



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1921

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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.

I.—GENERAL.

SIR W. H. MANNING, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., was Governor of Ceylon throughout the year. He was absent in India from January 8 to 18 and in England from March 6 to September 12 on public business. During these periods Sir Graeme Thomson, K.C.B., administered the Government.

Mr. H. L. Dowbiggin, Inspector-General of Police, received the King's Police Medal.

Mr. E. B. Denham, of the Ceylon Civil Service, was appointed Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, and left Ceylon in December.

The following retired from the Public Service during the year: Messrs. A. S. Pagden, H. O. Fox, and J. M. Davies, all of the Civil Service; Messrs. P. M. Bingham, A. E. Mayes, R. A. Powell, and W. C. Price, Provincial Engineers, Public Works Department; Dr. J. Lunn, Inspecting Medical Officer; and Mr. John Fox, Assistant Postmaster-General.

The following deaths are recorded with regret:—Mr. T. Goonetilleke, C.C.S.; Mr. L. A. James, Assistant Marine Biologist; Mr. W. H. Jackson, retired C.C.S.; Mr. J. H. de Saram, retired District Judge, Kandy; Mr. Dodwell Brown, retired District Judge, Colombo; Mr. J. G. Driberg, retired Provincial Engineer; Mr. W. H. Tocke, retired Assistant Conservator of Forests; Drs. F. G. Spittel and G. P. Schokman, Provincial Surgeons; Dr. M. Sinnetamby, retired Medical Superintendent, De Soysa Lying-in Home; Dr. A. J. Chalmers, formerly Registrar, Ceylon Medical College; Sir Charles Bruce, formerly Director of Education; Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot, late European Rural Member in the Legislative Council; Mr. G. A. Talbot, M.P., formerly Member of the Legislative Council; and Mr. A. de A. Seneviratne, formerly Member of the Legislative Council.

The general condition of the Colony was fairly satisfactory during the early months of 1920, but there was a great depression in the tea and rubber industries during the latter part of the year. There was very little export of plumbago, and few mines were working. The coconut industries alone remained prosperous throughout the year, and good prices ruled, though there was a slight fall in the price of desiccated coconut and coconut oil towards the end of the year. Prices of imported articles generally continued to rise, and this tendency was assisted by the great fluctuations in the rate of exchange, as indicated in the following table, which shows variation in the bank's buying rate for sterling drafts (on demand):—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
December 31, 1919	2	4 $\frac{7}{16}$	August 13	1	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
January 30, 1920	2	4 $\frac{1}{16}$	September 10	1	11
February 2	2	8	October 2	1	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
February 11	2	10 $\frac{5}{16}$	October 14	1	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
February 14	2	9 $\frac{3}{16}$	November 2	1	8
March 6	2	8 $\frac{1}{16}$	November 15	1	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
March 16	2	4 $\frac{13}{16}$	December 2	1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
April 30	2	4	December 14	1	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
May 29	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	December 31	1	5 $\frac{1}{16}$
June 15	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$			

The crises in the tea and rubber industries became acute in the latter months of the year, and the question of Government assistance was fully discussed, but fortunately the fall in the price of rice at the end of the year gave the needed measure of relief, and enabled the estates to continue working, though in very many cases at a very small margin of profit, and in some cases at an actual loss.

It was anticipated that it might be necessary to arrange for repatriation of coolies to India, and a labour bureau was established in November, under the charge of the Controller of Estate Supplies, to deal with applications for repatriation, and also to try to find work for planters, European and Ceylonese, out of employment, and to obtain particulars of estates understaffed and over-staffed with labour, so that it might be possible to arrange for the transfer of labour to places where it was wanted. A very considerable demand for labour was rather unexpectedly discovered, and it was found that no necessity existed for dealing on a large scale with repatriation of Tamil labour to India.

The year was not a prosperous one for the people generally, but there was little actual distress. Some relief works were necessary in the Salpiti and Alutkuru korales of the Western Province, a sum of Rs. 14,000 being spent on works of utility, the average number of persons benefitted being 175 a month. Some distress was also reported from Matale and Jaffna. In the latter district the rainfall was exceptionally heavy at the end of the year, and some parts of the peninsula were flooded, and very considerable damage was done. In this case also necessary relief was given. Health conditions however improved, the number of cases of influenza very greatly diminished, and there were no serious epidemics, except an outbreak of plague in Kandy, of which particulars will be found below. There was a slight decrease in serious crime as compared with the two previous years.

The food position at the beginning of 1920, and the decision of the Indian Government, not only to restrict exports of rice as in the previous year, but to consign all shipments to the Ceylon Government instead of to licensed importers, necessitated the continuance of the Food Control Department, and the undertaking by this Government of trading operations on a large scale. The allotment made to Ceylon was 280,000 tons, which was eventually increased to 300,000 tons; but the whole allotment was not taken up. It would have been insufficient in normal times, but the very high price charged—which, though less than might have been expected had Ceylon been forced to buy in competition with other countries, still represented an increase of over 50 per cent. on 1919 prices—resulted in combination with various other causes in a great decrease in consumption. The actual quantity imported during the year was 286,984 tons, including paddy, which was imported to Jaffna direct. The shipments arrived at an abnormally rapid rate during April, May, June, and July; and the system of rationing, to which it had been necessary rigidly to adhere during the periods of scarcity early in the year, was abandoned in July. The sole source of rice during the year was Burma.

The great improvement in the world position and prospects as regards foodstuffs in the latter part of the year enabled India to effect a considerable modification in the policy of export restriction, and the close of 1920 found Ceylon with stocks at the Chalmers Granaries amounting to 44,030 tons, a purchase of 25,000 tons from Rangoon ready for shipment in January and February, and good prospect of cheap and ample supplies under free conditions for some time to come. In anticipation of the removal of control from Burma's exports, and as a needed measure of relief to the community and to industries which were in a critical position through the high price of rice, the Ceylon Government in December effected a substantial reduction in price of over Rs. 4 per bushel. Rice and foodstuffs continued to be carried free on rail.

In view of the great difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of imported rice, and the high prices which had to be paid for such supplies as were obtainable, a Food Production Department was established on April 12, 1920, under the Directorship of Mr. E. B. Denham, C.C.S., who was succeeded by Mr. F. J. Smith in December.

Mr. Denham at once inaugurated a vigorous campaign throughout the Colony, pointing out the urgent necessity of increasing the supply of home-grown foodstuffs, and the duty of every class of the community to assist towards this end. The high prices of rice, &c., ruling afforded a further stimulus towards increased production, and many lands which had hitherto remained fallow were put under food crops.

To increase the acreage under rice Crown lands were offered on easy terms, and possession was given without many of the usual preliminaries, such as detailed survey, &c., tending to delay operations.

Large irrigable areas were leased to food-producing companies, 9,000 acres under Minneriya irrigation works being leased to the Minneriya Development Company, formed under the auspices of the Ceylon Planters' Association; 5,000 acres under Kalawewa to the Ceylon Mills, Ltd.; 2,600 acres under the Kirindi-oya works to the Low-country Food Products, Ltd.; and 1,000 acres under Nachchaduwa to Mr. W. A. de Silva.

In these cases leases for ninety-nine years were approved on pepper corn rent for the first ten years, and thereafter at the rate of Rs. 3 per acre per annum for ten years, after which the rent becomes subject to revision. Any timber on the land necessary for buildings, fences, &c., in connection with the cultivation is allowed free. Work on all these was started too late to allow of much progress within the year, but Mr. W. A. de Silva was able to put half the acreage allowed to him under cultivation—a very creditable performance.

Under Unnichchai tank a block of 2,600 acres was granted to the Salvation Army as trustees for Government for the establishment of a Salvation Army colony manned by recruits from India, each family being given 5 acres of paddy land and an allotment of high land on a pepper corn rent for ten years, with option then of purchase at the upset price of Rs. 25 per acre payable in ten instalments. Government undertook to finance the colonists at the start, paying their passages from India, providing houses and other buildings, paying the colonization office staff, and making advances for paddy, tools, buffalo hire, &c., until the first crop. At the end of the year 108 families were in residence in three camps provided at some distance apart for those of the Tamil, Telegu, and Malayalam races separately; and 540 acres were cleared and some 250 acres planted with paddy.*

Unfortunately the work in all these areas was greatly impeded by outbreaks of malaria after the rains. Free medical attention and drugs were provided for the residents of all the areas.

Small Government colonies were also started with free grants of land conditional on cultivation, and with assistance from Government in the way of advances, &c., under Nachchaduwa in the North-Central Province (19 families at the end of the year), Unnichchai Right Bank (10 families), Vakaneri (30 families), and Tembittiya (6 families). Good work was done and the colonies will be enlarged next year.

Grants of smaller lots of lands for paddy cultivation were also authorized with immediate possession and three years' occupation free of rent, with right (in the case of lots under 10 acres in extent) to purchase then, if properly cultivated, at an upset price equal to that of uncultivated land, payable in ten instalments; or in the case of larger lots with right to lease thereafter for

* This colony unfortunately did not prove successful, and the colonists were repatriated to India early in 1921.

a period of thirty years at a rental of 6 per cent. per annum on the value of the land prior to its occupation. On these terms some 27,000 acres had been allowed for paddy cultivation by the end of the year.

As a further encouragement to cultivation, the irrigation rates on all cultivated lands were suspended till 1925.

The provisional returns of the Superintendent of Census for the year ending April 15, 1920, show for the whole Island a total of 731,792 acres under paddy cultivation, and an estimated total yield of 12,600,000 bushels. (The imports for 1920 were equivalent to, roughly, 20,000,000 bushels of paddy.) On some fields two crops were grown and on others only one, and the returns give an average of 15·6 bushels for the maha and 14·6 bushels per acre for the yala crop. The figures are not reliable, but there is no doubt that the average yield in Ceylon is extremely low compared with the yields in other countries, and steps are being taken to get agriculturists to improve their methods of cultivation. The Agricultural Department, by its instructors, by lectures, and by the dissemination of leaflets, is endeavouring to educate the agriculturist in the value of improved methods of cultivation, seed selection, transplanting, manuring, &c., and demonstration plots have been established in a large number of centres. Manures were also supplied below cost price to members of co-operative societies.

Easy terms were also granted for Crown lands for the cultivation of foodstuffs other than paddy; and leaflets were prepared by the Agricultural Department showing what crops were best suited for each district and how they were best grown. A considerable additional area was cultivated with Indian corn, yams of all sorts, pulse, dry grains, &c., and also vegetables. Seeds were supplied free in deserving cases or at a small cost.

Further inquiries were undertaken by the Department with a view to providing additional cattle pastures, improved means of communication, markets for village produce, increased irrigation facilities, &c.

The Returned Soldiers Registration Committee, which commenced its operations in 1919, and was recognized and given a grant by Government, continued its useful work during 1920, giving relief to 21 Europeans, 22 Burghers, 32 Sinhalese, and 7 Tamils. 208 persons were registered, and billets were found for 119. Some of the remainder undoubtedly found billets for themselves, but did not report the fact to the Committee.

The new Archæological Commissioner, Mr. A. M. Hocart, who was appointed in May, 1919, arrived in Ceylon in October, 1920, after pursuing a course of special study in England, and left for India to complete the course. It is hoped that he will take up duties early in 1921, and that the Archæological Department will then be able to resume its activities, which practically ceased with the death of the late Commissioner, Mr. E. R. Ayrton. Meanwhile the state of the Jetawanarama Vihare (or Lankatilaka Vihare as it is now called) in Polonnaruwa was found to be dangerous, and restoration was started under Mr. H. C. P. Bell and the Public Works Department, and afterwards under Mr. Bell alone, and a considerable amount of work was done in 1920.

Three Commissions were appointed during the year, viz. :—

- (1) To inquire into the working of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, and to report thereon with such recommendations as the Commission may deem to be desirable for the amendment of, or the better carrying out of, that Ordinance.
- (2) To consider the representations which have been made by the Railway employees as to their conditions of employment, apart from the question of the adequacy of their pay.
- (3) To inquire and report upon the existing Native Headmen System, both paid and unpaid, with a view to its improvement.

The following are some of the principal Committees appointed during the year :—

- To consider the question of making Ceylon more self-supporting with regard to its food supply.
- To consider and report upon the proposed revision of the Weights and Measures Ordinance.
- To make preliminary arrangements with regard to the representation of Ceylon at the British Empire Exhibition in London in 1921.
- To advise Government on the financial aspect of the proposals put forward in connection with the economic resources of the Empire.
- To consider charges to be imposed for the use of locks and warehouses proposed in connection with the Lake Development Scheme.
- To report whether section 19 of Ordinance No. 15 of 1876 (Matrimonial Rights) should not be amended so as to bring the law on the point into conformity with English law.
- To formulate a scheme for the provision of assistance, financial and otherwise, to expectant mothers of the labouring classes.
- To consider and report whether there has been a general rise in rents in outstations, and whether public officers who are in receipt of salaries below Rs. 300 per annum in Colombo, and other officers residing out of Colombo, should be allowed increments on account of house rents.
- To consider and report upon the lines on which the work of a Statistical Department for Ceylon should be commenced.
- To consider and report on proposals for the resumption of an extensive irrigation programme.
- To consider (1) the working as one Government concern of all quarries, in which convict labour is employed, which would supply the required quantity of rubble and metal and stone for Government and Colombo Municipality.
- (2) The desirability of amalgamating the Railway quarries.
- (3) What further area of quarry land should be acquired at Ragama.
- To consider the question of the site, staff, &c., of the proposed Borstal Institute.
- To investigate the question of pension and endowment schemes for teachers in grant-in-aid schools.
- To consider and report the conditions on which grants of money should be made to local authorities to secure the systematic improvement of all towns and centres of population in the Island.
- To consider proposals for erecting simpler types of Government quarters for public officers.

II.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The revenue collected during the period October, 1919, to September, 1920, amounted to Rs. 81,200,418·02, showing an increase of Rs. 17,650,418·02 over the estimate, and of Rs. 11,129,476·22 over the revenue of the previous financial year. The principal items which contributed to the increase this year were Customs Duties, Stamp Duties, and Gain on Exchange.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure for the financial year 1919–20 was estimated at Rs. 74,826,556, but the amount actually spent was Rs. 84,883,269·89, which shows an increase of Rs. 14,039,589·32 over the expenditure for the previous year. The increase is chiefly due to the general rise in expenditure in the several Departments, increased wages to labourers, and to the high cost of materials.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony on September 30, 1920, were Rs. 58,614,789, and the liabilities Rs. 25,949,808, showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 32,664,981. The assets consist mainly of advances to local bodies, particularly the Municipality of Colombo for drainage and waterworks, value of stores on hand, and cash in fixed deposit and current account in banks. The main liabilities are the amount due to Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund and sundry deposits in the Treasury and local Kachcheries. The available cash balances total Rs. 23,453,233.

CURRENCY.

On September 30, 1920, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 47,190,289, and the currency reserve on that date consisted of Rs. 4,482,299 cash at call at Madras, Rs. 42,000 in gold, Rs. 11,787,442 in silver rupees, and Rs. 33,432,662 in British, Colonial, and Indian investments.

PUBLIC DEBT.

At the close of the financial period the public debt of the Colony stood at £4,947,467, or approximately nine-tenths the annual revenue. Of the loan of £3,436,854 authorized by Ordinance No. 6 of 1909 to meet the cost of the Colombo Harbour and Drainage Works, the Mannar Railway, and other public works, a sum of £1,500,000 was raised at 98½ in 1909-10 bearing interest at 3½ per cent., and a further sum of £1,000,000 was floated in 1914 at 99 bearing interest at 4 per cent.

CEYLON SAVINGS BANK.

The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,283,218 to the credit of 40,670 depositors on December 31, 1920, against Rs. 4,089,722 to the credit of 39,706 depositors on December 31, 1919. The amount of the Bank's invested funds on December 31, 1920, was Rs. 4,842,475, which includes the reserve fund of Rs. 699,884. Interest was allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. for the year 1920.

III.—AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

TEA.

The exports of tea during 1920 amounted to 184,770,231 lb., as against 208,433,578 lb. shipped during the previous year. The quantity of green tea exported totalled just under 3½ million pounds, as against slightly over 2½ million pounds in 1919. The fall in exports was due to the depression in the tea market during the latter part of the year. Stocks upon the world's markets had accumulated to such an extent that the demand for teas, except for those of the finest quality, was very small. The accumulated stocks contained much tea of inferior quality, which was difficult to dispose of, and consequently only high-grown teas of fine quality were required by the market. This depression in the tea market was the most serious that the tea industry had faced for many years, and, owing to the exceptionally high cost of rice and other foodstuffs, estates, except those in favoured localities in high elevations, found that they were working at a loss. To meet this serious state of affairs restriction of crop was decided upon, cultivation and manuring expenses reduced to a minimum, finer plucking adopted, and greater attention paid to the manufacture of high-grade products. The reduction in the cost of rice, referred to elsewhere, towards the end of the year, however, enabled many estates which had been working at a loss to secure their crops with a small margin of profit. Prices also improved towards the end of the year, especially for the teas from high elevations. With restriction of crop, finer plucking, and greater attention to

manufacture, the quality of teas greatly improved towards the end of the year. Diseases were somewhat more common during the year, especially upon those estates which had reduced manuring or cultivation during the period of the war. Owing to factories declining to purchase leaf, many small holdings were partially abandoned in the latter half of the year, but some are attempting to maintain a certain degree of cultivation.

RUBBER.

The exports of rubber amounted to 93,167,284 lb., as against 100,822,149 lb. in 1919. The fall in exports occurred in the latter half of the year, when owing to accumulation of stocks in Europe and America and to general trade depression a heavy fall in price occurred. The price offered for standard sheet or crêpe was often below the cost of production, and sales of inferior grades became impossible. This, coupled with the high cost of rice and other foodstuffs, caused production to be carried on, in some instances, at a loss. The rubber industry of the Colony, at the invitation of the Rubber Growers' Association, decided to adopt a voluntary 25 per cent. reduction of crop in order to allow the accumulation of stocks to become reduced. In several instances estates were compelled to discharge labour, although every effort was made to avoid this. The position at the end of the year had shown no signs of improvement, and the industry was generally in a depressed condition. Diseases had not been more prevalent than usual during the year. Pod disease and leaf fall was common in some districts, but, on the whole, this disease was less serious than in previous years. Root diseases were frequent where stumps had not been removed, and bark rot was common during the very wet weather. The control of this last disease by means of the application of disinfectants is becoming general. Brown bast is of frequent occurrence, but it did not appear to be so common as in the previous year. A census of the rubber acreage was taken during the year, with the following results:—

	In Bearing. Acres.	Not in Bearing. Acres.
Estates over 15 acres in extent..	.. 253,930	.. 95,560
Plantations below 15 acres in extent	.. 13,032	.. 35,372
Total ..	266,962	130,932

CACAO.

The exports of cacao were 56,397 cwt. in 1920, as against 52,884 cwt. in 1919. The spring crop was fair, while the autumn crop was, on the whole, good. Prices fell considerably in the last few months of the year, and inferior grades became almost unsaleable. The recently formed Peradeniya Chocolate Company had practically completed the erection of their chocolate factory at the end of the year.

COCONUTS.

The exports of coconut products for 1920 were as follows :—

Nuts ..	..	..	No.	9,776,449
Copra ..	..	..	Cwt.	1,357,870
Desiccated coconut	..	..	Cwt.	518,735
Oil ..	..	..	Cwt.	507,527
Fibre ..	..	..	Cwt.	84,947
Shells ..	..	..	Cwt.	447

Crops, on the whole, were good, as the result of a favourable season during the previous twelve months, and to the greater attention that is being paid to cultivation. Motor tractors are being employed in increasing numbers upon coconut estates, and reports are, on the whole, favourable. Diseases have not been serious during the year, although in the wetter parts of the Kurunegala

District nut fall has caused considerable losses of crops. Spraying has been tried experimentally, and with coconut products at high prices appears to be profitable. The prices for all coconut products ruled exceptionally high during the year, copra fetching as much as Rs. 145 per candy of 5 cwt. Increased planting of coconuts is taking place, and the acreage is gradually extending.

CARDAMOMS.

The export for 1920 was 3,754 cwt., as against 5,011 cwt. in 1919. Prices, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory, except during the latter part of the year.

CINNAMON.

The exports of this product were as follows :—

Quills	..	..	..	Cwt.	22,581
Chips	..	..	..	Cwt.	12,560
Oil	..	..	..	Oz.	73,246
Leaf oil	..	..	..	Oz.	365,976

The prices during the year were satisfactory, although some stocks of fine quality products are being held for further improvements in the market.

CITRONELLA.

The exports of citronella oil amounted to 1,022,809 lb., of which nearly half went to the United States of America.

KAPOK.

The exports of this fibre amounted to 301,743 lb., of which over one-third was shipped to British India.

FOODSTUFFS.

The price of all foodstuffs ruled very high during the year, and determined efforts were made to increase local supplies. Every encouragement possible was given to the cultivators of paddy, and liberal permits given for dry grain cultivations. Owing to high prices and the efforts of all classes of agriculturists, considerably increased crops of paddy were produced during the year. The yields were, on the whole, fair, although considerable damage was done in some districts towards the end of the year by heavy floods.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

Twenty-six new societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies now reaches 153. The share capital of existing societies on March 31, 1920, was Rs. 99,284, their reserve fund Rs. 14,662, and their members numbered 15,210. Manure to the extent of 245 tons were supplied to village cultivators through these societies during the year.

THE CEYLON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society was organized in 1904. It has now a membership of 1,515, of whom 840 are local and 675 foreign, *i.e.*, residents outside Ceylon who pay Rs. 15 per annum, while Ceylon residents pay Rs. 10 as annual subscription. The activities of the Society were mainly directed during the period under review to increasing the production of food crops, and the Government grant (Rs. 38,000) was raised to Rs. 61,790, so as to enable the employment of additional Agricultural Instructors. The number of Instructors at present is 35. These officers will in future be under the direct control of Divisional Agricultural Officers, and will ultimately be absorbed into the Department of Agriculture.

The publications issued by the Society include the English (Tropical Agriculturist), Sinhalese (Govikam Sangarawa), and Tamil (Kamat Tholil Velakkam) Agricultural Magazines issued monthly free to members, in addition to English and Sinhalese Year Books issued alternately every year.

Leaflets in English and the vernaculars dealing with specific subjects are also issued free to members.

The Society's functions hitherto included the encouragement of agricultural exhibitions, co-operative credit societies, apiculture, poultry, home gardens, and other industries by offer of awards and in other ways; but these functions, as the re-organization of the Department of Agriculture progresses, are gradually being merged in the departmental activities. A Beekeepers' Association, recently formed, is paying attention to improvement in apiculture.

Experimental and demonstration gardens in village centres, maintained either wholly or partly by the Society or by the Department of Agriculture, are in charge of some of the Instructors, whose duties as itinerating officers include imparting advice and instruction in tillage, manuring, crop pests, diseases, &c., to the cultivators, who readily responded to the call for increased food production during the rice scarcity.

The Director of Agriculture is the Organizing Vice-President of the Society, and the members receive advice and assistance from the Scientific Staff of the Department, which has been augmented by the recent appointment of three Divisional Agricultural Officers.

Members who hitherto enjoyed the privilege of obtaining seeds, plants, implements, &c., at cost price through the Society may still enjoy similar benefits from the Seed Division of the Department of Agriculture, which has now fitted up a special seed store which will afford greater facilities.

VETERINARY.

Importation from India.—During the year there were imported from India 5,639 cattle for slaughter, 948 for draught work, 204 for dairy purposes, 1,224 buffaloes for slaughter, and 1,400 for dairy purposes. In addition, 500 Indian cattle were imported for transhipment to Brazil for breeding purposes. 56,957 sheep and goats were imported for slaughter.

Amongst the cattle at the Colombo Quarantine Station, the following cases of disease occurred:—17 cases of rinderpest and 77 cases of foot-and-mouth disease. Amongst the goats and sheep 342 cases of anthrax and 117 cases of foot-and-mouth disease.

In the first half of the year the inspection at Tuticorin before shipment was under the supervision of a Veterinary Inspector of the Madras Veterinary Department, but later an officer of the Colombo Municipal Veterinary Department was despatched to supervise the work of inspection before shipment.

Rinderpest.—This disease prevailed chiefly in the Western and North-Western Provinces during the first three quarters of the year. In Colombo town there were 493 cases, with 108 recoveries and 385 deaths. In the Western Province outside the town 1,356 cases occurred, with 361 recoveries and 955 deaths; 40 were shot. In the North-Western Province there were 946 cases, of which 277 recovered, 602 died, and 67 were shot. Central Province 2 cases, 1 recovery and 1 death. The Southern, Northern, and North-Central Provinces were free. In the Eastern Province there were 2 cases and 2 deaths. In the Province of Uva 12 cases and 12 deaths, and in the Province of Sabaragamuwa 4 cases, with 1 recovery and 3 deaths.

Anti-rinderpest Inoculation.—The "serum alone" method was employed. The supply from India being difficult to obtain, the production of serum in Colombo was commenced by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute. A special vote was allowed by Government for the purpose. This was used by the Department at the Government Dairy and elsewhere, and was found perfectly satisfactory, and as effective as the supply from India.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.—This disease was prevalent in all the Provinces, except the Northern and Eastern, but to a much less extent than in the previous year. 1,610 cases occurred, against 10,887 last year. Most cases recover in the course of ten days.

Anthrax.—Very few cases occur outside the Quarantine Station. 342 deaths amongst goats and sheep occurred after importation, and was confined to these animals. Shipment in large numbers and crowding appear to exercise a great effect on the incidence of this disease, since it is not so prevalent before shipment, and rapidly decreases after a few days' rest in the station in Colombo. Large numbers of cattle and buffaloes in the same station, but in different sheds, remain free. For the rest of the Island, in the Central Province 8 cases, Southern Province 6 cases, Eastern Province 24 cases were reported, some of which were doubtful.

Rabies.—Seventy-four suspected cases were examined by the Director of the Bacteriological Institute, 25 of which were from Colombo town. Of these, 41 gave positive and 18 negative results; 15 were received unfit for examination. 272 persons were treated at the Pasteur Institute, Colombo.

Black Quarter or Quarter Ill.—No cases were reported during the year.

Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia.—Twelve cases in the Central Province and 17 cases in the Province of Sabaragamuwa were reported.

Surra.—Eleven cases were reported from the Central Province amongst cattle.

Horses and Swine.—No outbreak of infectious disease occurred during the year.

SALT.

The manufacture and collection of salt is a Government monopoly, which is protected by a duty of Rs. 3 per cwt. on imported salt. The amount realized by its sale in 1920 was Rs. 1,988,278·53, as against Rs. 1,786,054·08 in 1919 and Rs. 1,116,774·14 in 1918.

The local production of salt during the year was not interfered with by the weather, but the total yield of 330,202 cwt. does not compare favourably with the output in a normal year, owing to the refusal of the salt pan owners at Puttalam to manufacture salt during 1920. The production was distributed as follows :—

Hambantota District	..	..	..	Cwt.	168,062
Jaffna District	..	..	..	..	99,869
Trincomalee District	..	..	..	..	64,271
					<hr/> 330,202 <hr/>

This represents a little over half of the annual consumption of the Island, and is disappointing when compared with the record collections of 1918, which amounted to 1,186,524 cwt.

The re-organization of the Salt Department under the direction of the Salt Adviser, Mr. F. W. Gooch (who is on deputation from the Government of Madras), was taken in hand in the latter half of 1919, and two new Government salterns, one at Elephant Pass (Jaffna District) and the other at Palavi (Puttalam District) have been started. The work in connection with the laying out of these and the erection of machinery, &c., could not be completed during 1920, but it is expected that manufacture will be carried out on a fairly large scale in 1921.

The usual selling price at the Government Salt Stores is Rs. 3 per cwt., except at the Government Check Stores at Haputale and Galle, where the salt is sold in limited quantities at Rs. 5·25 and Rs. 4 per cwt., respectively.

The total stocks at the end of 1920 amounted to 1,007,344, or a little over 1½ years' supply. As the salt pan owners at Puttalam (which has been the chief source of the salt supply of the Island) have again refused to manufacture salt, the question of the importation of salt will have to be considered if a sufficient supply cannot be secured from the two new Government salterns.

CROWN LAND.

The total area of Crown land sold and settled (exclusive of settlements under the Waste Lands Ordinance) was 10,069 acres, as compared with 6,546 acres in 1919.

The system of outright sale in place of the system of leasing, which was tried but found unpopular, was adopted generally, and special terms were given in many cases in order to encourage the production of food crops locally. There was a fair demand for land during the year, mostly for coconuts and paddy. There was no demand for plumbago lands, and little for rubber.

The Land Settlement Department continued its operations throughout the year. The staff, which was reduced during the war, has not yet been brought up to full strength, but this will be done gradually as the staff of the Survey Department is increased, and more block survey plans are produced by that Department. 116,296 acres were settled on forest plans during the year, this area covering a number of proposed forest reserves in the Northern Province. 76,624 acres were settled on block survey preliminary plans and 1,106 acres on topographic plans. The total area settled by the Land Settlement Department during the year was 194,027 acres.

FORESTS.

Re-forestation.—During the year 1920 the area of plantations was increased from 6.201 acres 3 roods 20 perches to 7,346 acres 1 rood 12 perches.

Exploitation.—Public Departments were supplied during the year 1920 with 50,688 broad gauge and 5,573 narrow gauge sleepers, 378,225 cubic yards of firewood, 186,483 cubic feet of timber, 286,383 small round timber, and other minor produce, chiefly stone, sand, gravel, &c. The value of these supplies amounted to Rs. 1,595,633, as against Rs. 1,576,606 for the previous year, and as against Rs. 1,919,065 for the year 1918.

Since 1906 the Forest Department has supplied the Railway Department with 890,806 broad gauge and 339,178 narrow gauge sleepers at an average cost of Rs. 3.68 and Re. 1.69 per sleeper, respectively. Thus, a very large saving over the cost of imported sleepers has been effected in obtaining these supplies from the local forests, while it is admitted that the local sleepers are far more durable than the imported ones.

The revenue received from the public on account of timber, fuel, and minor forest produce during the year 1920 was Rs. 420,591, as against Rs. 312,596 during the year 1919. The miscellaneous revenue provided an additional sum of Rs. 25,204, as against Rs. 14,472 during the year 1919.

MINES AND MINING.

Gem Mining is carried on principally in the Ratnapura District, the industry being confined almost entirely to Ceylonese.

Plumbago Mining is the principal mining industry of Ceylon. The most important mining districts are the Kurunegala, Colombo, Galle, Kegalla, and Kalutara Districts, but the mineral is also found in other places. There is an abundance of plumbago in the Island, in some places near the surface, but in others deep mining has to be resorted to. The year was a poor one for the industry, as only about 50 mines were working at the end of the year, employing about 2,000 men. The Island is capable of producing about 30,000 tons a year, but during 1920 only 9,205 tons were exported, valued at Rs. 2,100,114, as compared with 33,410 tons valued at Rs. 22,494,000 in 1916, which was Ceylon's best year.

There is very little demand for plumbago at present, and the prospects are not very promising.

Mica.—Ceylon contains considerable quantities of mica, mostly phlogophite, but the demand is small, and the interest which was taken a few years ago in this product has not been sustained. 296 cwt. were exported during the year valued at Rs. 36,523.

MINERAL SURVEY.

The principal investigations carried out during 1920 were (a) an examination of the laterites of the Island, in search of material suitable for use as aluminium ore; and (b) the continuation of prospecting for the source of the precious stones found in the alluvial gravels.

It may be said almost with finality that no aluminium ores exist in the Island. The proportion of free alumina in all samples examined was negligible, and that of silica excessive.

A discovery of sapphire in minute quantity in the parent rock was made in the Southern Province.

The production of monazite at the works near Bentota under the control of the mineral survey was continued throughout the year. A shipment of 72 tons of refined sand, containing over 8·5 per cent. of thorium was made in November.

A new discovery of moonstone was made by private miners at Weragoda, in the Southern Province, early in the year. There has been no output of this semi-precious stone for some years past, but several hundredweight were mined this year in a few months.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES.

The industries and manufactures of Ceylon are mostly connected with the products of agriculture, such as the manufacture of tea, copra, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, rubber, &c. There are engineering works in various parts of the country engaged in the manufacture and repair of agricultural implements and machinery, &c., and Colombo contains lead-rolling mills, which prepare lead for tea chests for Ceylon and South India. In the same town are also several large engineering works fully equipped to undertake repairs to ships, &c.

Further investigations have been made by the Public Works Department in connection with the proposed hydro-electric scheme for Ceylon. The probable site for the works will be at the Laxapana falls in the Province of Sabaragamuwa, where an enormous quantity of power is available.

Minor industries, such as silver, brass, and ivory work, and the manufacture of lace, had a fairly successful year. Mention should be made of the Kandyan Arts Association, which has done much to foster and improve the silver, brass, and lacquer work of the Kandyan districts. The Kalutara Basket Association has continued to make good progress, and a new hall was opened in Kalutara for the sale of its products. The various articles of basket work are made by the villagers in their homes from locally grown cane, and are purchased and distributed by the Association, finding a ready sale both in Ceylon and abroad. The preparation of coir and coir rope forms a considerable cottage industry, especially along the south-west coast of the Island. A small quantity of cloth is still woven in Jaffna and Batticaloa, but this industry is dying out. There is a spinning and weaving mill in Colombo. The Education Department has endeavoured to encourage various small local industries, such as the manufacture of chalk, ink, and slate pencils, and several industrial schools have been opened (see under head Education below).

FISHERIES.

Food Fisheries.—At present the marine fisheries are carried on in a comparatively primitive manner by local fishermen from outrigger canoes and catamarans, and from the shore. Line fishing is practised far out at sea, whilst nets of various kinds are used in the inshore waters and estuaries. Considerable quantities of fish are caught, packed in ice, and sent to Colombo and other large centres of population from places on the railway, even so far distant as Jaffna

and Mannar. Elsewhere most of the fish is dried or pickled. Many of the fishermen of the Negombo District migrate during the fishing season to various parts of the coast of the North-Western and Northern Provinces, the fish they catch being cured and salted. The supply of fish, however, is inadequate for the growing demands of the Island, as is shown by the following table of the imports of fish goods from 1910 to 1919 :—

Value of Imports of Fish Goods into Ceylon.

	Cured Fish. Rs.	Tinned Fish. Rs.	Fish Manure. Rs.	Fish Oil. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1919 ..	3,849,420 ..	79,956 ..	1,357,273 ..	4,635 ..	5,291,284
1918 ..	4,463,125 ..	62,386 ..	1,067,381 ..	840 ..	5,593,732
1917 ..	4,121,258 ..	80,345 ..	502,959 ..	2,100 ..	4,706,662
1916 ..	4,482,770 ..	184,468 ..	713,808 ..	3,738 ..	5,384,784
1915 ..	4,237,500 ..	147,437 ..	223,990 ..	1,845 ..	4,610,772
1914 ..	3,679,338 ..	152,078 ..	262,756 ..	2,433 ..	4,096,605
1913 ..	4,467,725 ..	166,661 ..	1,167,687 ..	1,213 ..	5,803,286
1912 ..	4,228,690 ..	149,636 ..	757,113 ..	5,507 ..	5,140,946
1911-12 ..	4,339,008 ..	135,177 ..	1,077,073 ..	948 ..	5,552,206
1910-11 ..	4,233,363 ..	105,240 ..	1,174,889 ..	— ..	5,513,492

The Marine Biological Survey, under the Director of the Colombo Museum and Marine Biologist, is making investigations with a view to improving the fish supply and experimenting with modern fishing appliances. The preliminary survey of the coastal waters is now complete, and two valuable trawling banks have been examined, one off Kankasanturai, and the other near Cape Comorin, outside the Indian territorial waters, which could easily be worked from Colombo. Apart from these two banks of nearly 4,000 square miles, the littoral waters are not suitable for trawling. Enormous quantities of mid-water fish, however, abound everywhere, and there can be no doubt that modern methods of drift net fishing could be successfully introduced.

The Marine Biological Survey is at present engaged upon these problems, and there is no reason why an adequate supply of fresh fish, and, with improved methods, a greatly increased quantity of dried fish, should not be produced from Ceylon littoral waters.

Pearl Fisheries.—The pearl banks, which are situated in the shallow water plateau of the north-eastern corner of the Gulf of Mannar, are probably the most ancient fisheries now in existence, and appear to be carried on under much the same conditions now as they were 2,000 or 3,000 years ago. Pliny refers to Taprobane (Ceylon) “as the most productive of pearls of all parts of the world,” and in the “Mahawansa” mention is made of a present which included local pearls from King Wijaya of Ceylon to his Indian father-in-law about 540-550 B.C.

Notable features of these fisheries are their uncertainty and their intermittent periods of unproductiveness—characteristics which have obtained from early times. The most noteworthy of these barren periods, omitting fisheries of negligible value, occurring during the British period have been :—

1815-1827, inclusive, 13 years.	1892-1902, inclusive, 11 years.
1838-1854, inclusive, 17 years.	1908-present day.
1864-1873, inclusive, 10 years.	

The most profitable series of fisheries on record was during 1903-1907, the value of the 1905 fishery alone being 3½ millions of rupees, of which the Government share was two-thirds. There is an excellent prospect of a new series of fisheries starting in the year 1924.

Window-pane Oyster Fishery.—This is a local industry of some importance carried on at Lake Tamblegam, near Trincomalee. The window-pane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) produces a pearl of inferior quality used for cheap native jewellery. It also has some medicinal value.

Tank Fisheries.—The tanks of the dry zone provide an abundant supply of fresh-water fish, which with care could be converted into a valuable source of food supply.

Edible Oyster Fisheries.—Edible oysters are found in considerable quantities at certain points on the coast, but apparently they are not appreciated by the indigenous population, though many Europeans regard them as a great delicacy. The demand is not very great at the present time, and there does appear to be sufficient reason for developing these fisheries.

Chank Fisheries and Bêche-de-mer.—There is a chank fishery near the islands of Palk Strait, controlled by the Government Agent of the Northern Province, from which Government derives a small but steady revenue. Some 2,155,000 chanks and 156½ cwt. of bêche-de-mer were exported from the Jaffna District during the year.

FACTORIES.

The total number of factories registered at the end of 1920 was 1,270, which was an increase of 4 over the number for the previous year. The greater number of the factories, of course, deal with tea and rubber. These show a decrease of 7 to 1,026, whilst factories dealing with coconut products have increased in number from 115 to 124. Engineering factories and saw mills have increased by 9 to 53.

The number of factories using steam power has diminished by 4·4 per cent., a rate—with the exception of last year, when it was just 8 per cent.—that has been usual for some years past. Electric installations, on the other hand, have increased by 8 per cent. during the year.

IV.—TRADE.

The total value of Ceylon trade in the year 1920, though falling short of that in 1919, showed an increase over that of previous years, as will be seen from the following table. In considering these figures the fluctuations in the rate of exchange have to be borne in mind. Owing to the high relative value of the rupee, the value of imports was correspondingly diminished in rupees. This effect was more than counterbalanced by the inflation in the quantity of imports which the favourable rate of exchange occasioned. Had it not been for the general depression in trade during the last few months of the year, the total value of trade for 1920 would have far exceeded that of any previous year. The figures include the value of coal supplied for the use of steamers, but exclude the value of specie. The figures are :—

Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.	Year.	Lakhs of Rupees.
1911	3,523½	1916	5,212½
1912	3,886½	1917	4,083½
1913	4,329½	1918	4,065½
1914	4,022½	1919	6,392½
1915	4,495½	1920	6,263½

The gross Customs revenue for 1920 amounted to Rs. 25,945,649, an increase of Rs. 2,343,696 over that of 1919.

The following table shows the duties recovered during the past two years under the general heads under which imports and exports are classified :—

Imports.		1919. Rs.	1920. Rs.
Grain	..	3,259,043	3,468,949
Cotton Goods	..	1,014,255	1,526,429
Spirits	..	805,077	1,324,575
Sugar	..	1,200,660	817,579
Kerosine Oil	..	1,904,600	1,459,900
Other Goods	..	5,097,095	7,809,807

<i>Exports.</i>	1919.	1920.
	Rs.	Rs.
Coconuts, fresh and desiccated, Copra, and Coconut Oil ..	1,608,139 ..	1,318,619
Tea, Rubber, and Cacao ..	6,235,205 ..	5,564,646
Plumbago ..	48,722 ..	62,331
Other ..	6,780 ..	11,200
Total ..	21,179,576	23,364,035

an increase of Rs. 2,184,459. Taken separately, the duty on imports shows an increase of Rs. 3,126,509, and that on exports a decrease of Rs. 942,050.

Refunds and drawbacks totalled Rs. 279,038 in 1920, as against Rs. 473,608 in 1919.

The total value of imports and exports for the past ten years is given in the following table. The figures here are exclusive of the value of specie and of coal supplied to steamers :—

Year.	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Total. Rs.
1911 ..	156,986,106 ..	180,526,959 ..	337,513,065
1912 ..	175,322,979 ..	198,954,902 ..	374,277,881
1913 ..	186,073,086 ..	232,986,954 ..	419,060,040
1914 ..	172,317,549 ..	218,363,846 ..	390,681,395
1915 ..	163,637,758 ..	273,375,987 ..	437,013,745
1916 ..	211,500,753 ..	297,505,905 ..	509,006,658
1917 ..	184,123,986 ..	304,160,457 ..	488,284,443
1918 ..	177,716,763 ..	211,325,334 ..	389,042,097
1919 ..	239,323,731 ..	367,054,779 ..	606,378,510
1920 ..	321,275,652 ..	268,462,183 ..	589,737,835

It will be noticed that in 1920 the value of imports exceeded that of exports, the percentage of the excess being 16·4, while in all previous years the balance has been in favour of exports. The large increase in the value of imports in 1920 was due to the high price of rice, and to the large local demand for goods from the United Kingdom owing to the favourable position of exchange. Of the total value of exports, Rs. 257,178,888 represents the value of Ceylon produce and manufactures and Rs. 11,283,295 that of imports re-exported, the value of imported rubber exported representing approximately a third of the total under the latter head.

The percentages of imports, exports, and of the total trade are shown distinctively as regards Empire and foreign trade in the table below for the past three years (exclusive of the value of imported rubber) :—

	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
Percentage of total trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom ..	31·27 ..	31·39 ..	34·38
British Possessions ..	48·48 ..	33·61 ..	39·35
Foreign Countries ..	20·25 ..	35 ..	26·27
	100	100	100

Percentage of import trade of Ceylon with—			
United Kingdom ..	16·71 ..	14·51 ..	24·46
British Possessions ..	67·4 ..	63·43 ..	59·72
Foreign Countries ..	15·89 ..	22·06 ..	15·62
	100	100	100

Percentage of export trade of Ceylon taken by—			
United Kingdom ..	43·07 ..	42·13 ..	46·06
British Possessions ..	33·14 ..	14·62 ..	15·34
Foreign Countries ..	23·79 ..	43·25 ..	38·6
	100	100	100

The percentage of the import, export, and of the total trade of the United Kingdom for 1920 was the highest during the three years. Smaller purchases by the United States of America—their total value represents a 100 per cent. decrease—are largely responsible for the reduced percentage under foreign countries. Imports from foreign countries were valued at Rs. 50,060,068, as against Rs. 51,555,279 in 1919.

IMPORTS.

There were increases under most of the important heads of imports.

Flour (Wheat).—Imports increased in quantity from 352,255 cwt. in 1919 to 556,115 cwt. in the year under review. British India alone supplied a quantity in excess of the total imports from all sources in 1919, Australia was the next important supplier in 1920, while a fair quantity was also imported from the Straits Settlements. The maximum price at which wheat flour can be sold in the local market was fixed from time to time by the Food Controller, but owing to large imports sales were often effected considerably below these prices.

Rice.—Throughout the year the importation, distribution, and selling price of rice have been under Government control. The figures for 1919 were 5,342,575 cwt. valued at Rs. 66,425,349, or an average of Rs. 12·43 per cwt.; this year the corresponding figures were 5,788,730 cwt. valued at Rs. 91,667,375, or an average of Rs. 15·83 per cwt. The average price per cwt. for 1918 was Rs. 8·11. The cost to the Colony of the high price of rice as compared with 1918 was, therefore, at the rate of Rs. 7·72 per cwt., which on 5,788,730 cwt. represents a sum of over 43 million rupees. There was a similar comparative loss, though not so great, in 1919, and no stronger testimonial to the actual financial stability of the Colony could be adduced than the manner in which this shock has been met.

Other Grains.—There was a slight decrease in the quantity imported. Paddy and peas are the two principal kinds included under "Other Grain." Owing to a limited rice supply there was a considerable demand for "Ragi" as a substitute for rice.

Sugar showed a decrease, the quantities imported being 449,678 cwt. and 372,925 cwt. for 1919 and 1920, respectively. Java, the principal country supplying Ceylon with refined sugar, sent 180,182 cwt., as against 246,251 cwt. in the previous year, while there was an appreciable increase in the quantity imported from Australia.

Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.—The quantities of each of these cleared for home consumption during the past three years have been :—

		Cigars.		Cigarettes.		Manufactured Tobacco.		Total.
		lb.		lb.		lb.		lb.
1918	..	33,550	..	264,796	..	17,234	..	315,580
1919	..	11,820	..	319,967	..	13,625	..	345,412
1920	..	12,198	..	428,295	..	28,854	..	469,347

The figure for cigars for 1918 includes "beedies." These are now included under cigarettes. Imports of beedies in 1920 amounted to 12,036 lb. The increase in the quantity of manufactured tobacco is most noticeable.

Spirits.—Imports of all varieties show an increase as compared with 1919, with the exception of spirits of wine. Of the varieties most in demand, brandy showed an increase from 13,218 proof gallons to 21,601 proof gallons in the quantity cleared for home consumption, gin from 13,575 proof gallons to 33,989 proof gallons, and whisky from 41,293 proof gallons to 58,903 proof gallons.

Cotton, Manufactured and Raw.—Imports rose in value by 78 per cent. as compared with 1919. The increase in the value was distributed under all heads. There was a small decrease in the value of cotton goods imported from British Possessions.

Coal.—Imports increased in quantity from 686,077 tons in 1919 to 705,193 tons in 1920. The total value, however, showed a decrease. British India was the chief source of supply, and sent 640,742 tons for the year. Small quantities of English, Japanese, African, and Australian coal were also imported, but supplies were less than in the previous year, except in the case of English coal. These figures represent imports by private firms, which are mainly for bunkers. Ceylon will not be supplied with bunker coal from India from April 1 next, owing to the decision of the Indian Government to reserve her coal supply for industrial and other purposes within the Indian Empire.

Manure.—There was an increase in total imports from 1,552,192 cwt. in 1919 to 1,813,021 cwt. in the year under review, which was due to the large imports at the beginning of the year. From August onwards the imports greatly decreased owing to the depression in the tea and rubber industries. The bulk of the manures came from British India. The most noticeable increases were under bone, guano, kainit, nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, superphosphate, sulphate of potash, refuse of saltpetre, and other manures, while imports of basic slag, castor seed poonac, and sulphate of ammonia showed a considerable decrease. The United Kingdom was the principal supplier for nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, Belgium for kainit and superphosphates, France for muriate and sulphate of potash, while Egypt must be bracketed with Belgium for the first place for basic slag, each supplying an equal quantity, Egypt also being the leading country from which "other manures" were supplied during the year. The value of all manures amounted to Rs. 13,141,891, an increase of over three million rupees over 1919.

Kerosine Oil in Bulk and Cases.—During the year under review all the bulk oil came from Persia, and all the case oil from the United States of America. Total imports show a small decrease, the quantities being 5,106,100 gallons and 5,290,046 gallons for 1920 and 1919, respectively.

Petrol.—Imports were less than in the year 1919, but exceeded the quantity for previous years. Imports since 1915 were :—

	Gallons.		Gallons.
1915	607,774	1918	680,395
1916	776,092	1919	1,175,784
1917	884,093	1920	988,427

Sumatra was the chief source of supply for petrol during the year, while a small quantity came from Dutch Borneo and 20 gallons from the United States of America.

Horses and Motor Cars.—317 horses were imported, as against 68 horses in 1919. About half the number imported in 1920 came from Australia, one of which was subject to duty; 91 and 67 horses, respectively, came from British India and the United Kingdom, of which 20 and 38, respectively, were subject to duty, including one horse imported from Arabia. All horses which are imported of the value of Rs. 1,000 and over are subject to a duty of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The number of cars imported, including commercial cars and chassis, rose from 263 in 1919 to 990 in 1920. Of the total, 599 were American, 199 Canadian, 154 English, 17 Italian, 14 French, and 3 German cars.

Metal and Metalware.—Imports rose by 69 per cent. in value, all the important items contributing to the increase, with the exception of hoop iron and pig lead. Galvanized iron (including barbed wire) showed a remarkable increase in value from Rs. 943,529 in 1919 to Rs. 3,646,993 in 1920. Iron—bar, flat, rod, and nail rod—from Rs. 1,397 to Rs. 524,093, and cast steel from Rs. 652,905 to Rs. 1,829,658 in the same period. Supplies of the various kinds of metal and metalware from the United Kingdom were of the value of Rs. 10,874,198, equivalent to 67·93 per cent. of the total value for all countries. Burma came second, with 14·03 per cent. to her credit. The other principal countries

supplying metal and metalware named in order of importance were the United States of America (5·3 per cent.), British India (3·54 per cent.), Germany (2·42 per cent.), Belgium (2·16 per cent.), and Japan (1·61 per cent.). The position of Germany is mainly due to her supplies of hoop iron and wire nails, for both of which she was the leading country but one.

Cement.—Imports by private firms doubled, the quantity for 1919 and 1920 being 152,122 cwt. and 353,604 cwt., respectively. There was very little demand for Japanese cement, imports falling from 44,548 cwt. in 1919 to only 2,561 cwt. in 1920. Belgium, Austria, and Italy appear as fresh sources of supply since the war.

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply.

The following table shows the principal countries exporting goods to Ceylon, with the percentages of value supplied by each :—

	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
1. Burma ..	19·51	23·95	30·29
2. United Kingdom ..	16·11	14·16	24·11
3. British India ..	38·08	30·36	23·66
4. United States of America ..	3·17	3·36	3·37
5. Straits Settlements ..	3·83	3·8	2·26
6. Japan ..	5·14	3·5	2·18
7. Java ..	1·35	2·87	2·04
8. Borneo (excluding British) ..	1·21	2·51	1·66
9. Holland ..	·26	·34	·97
10. France ..	·43	·66	·86
11. Persia ..	—	1·09	·85
12. Maldiv Islands ..	1·35	·90	·77
13. Hong Kong ..	·43	·78	·58
14. Belgium ..	—	·14	·54
15. China (excluding Hong Kong) ..	·09	·51	·51
16. Natal ..	2·84	1·42	·47
17. Switzerland ..	·09	·25	·42
18. Sumatra ..	2·17	·93	·39
19. South Australia ..	·29	·86	·37
20. Italy ..	·07	·07	·36
21. New South Wales ..	·22	·54	·35
22. Victoria ..	·14	·27	·34
23. Norway ..	·28	·13	·34
24. West Australia ..	—	·04	·33
25. Canada ..	·01	·03	·32
26. Germany ..	—	—	·27
27. Siam ..	·19	3·93	·25
28. Other British Possessions in Africa ..	1·41	1·09	·25
29. Sweden ..	·35	·08	·21
30. Egypt ..	·23	·06	·18
31. Russia in Europe ..	—	·22	·11
32. Queensland ..	·07	·03	·1
33. Mozambique ..	·04	·83	·09
34. India (excluding British) ..	·43	·03	·07

Burma heads the table for the first time by virtue of her being almost the sole supplier of rice. There is a noticeable increase in the percentage of the United Kingdom. The total value of goods imported from that country showed an increase of over a hundred per cent. as compared with 1919. Exchange was favourable to the importer in the early part of 1920, and large orders were placed in the hands of exporting firms. The rise in the rate of exchange towards the latter part of the year, coupled with the general depression in trade, resulted in the inability of some of the consignees to pay for and clear the goods ordered. The result has been that the quantity of goods entered for bonding has far exceeded that of any previous year. At present four additional warehouses have been set apart as bonded warehouses, and these will probably suffice, as speculative consignments are no longer coming in.

Japan maintained her place as the second best foreign supplier, in spite of a reduction in her percentage as compared with the previous two years, while Germany comes twenty-sixth on the table by supplying Rs. 862,540 worth of goods. Germany's position in 1913 was fifth among all countries, and first among foreign countries.

EXPORTS.

The staple products of Ceylon exported in order of value are as follows :—

	1918.	Lakhs of Rupees.		1919.	1920.
1. Rubber ..	622	..	1,321	..	900
2. Tea ..	832	..	1,165	..	808
3. Copra ..	127	..	323	..	284
4. Coconut oil ..	157	..	257	..	199
5. Coconut, desiccated ..	52	..	249	..	183
6. Arecanuts ..	38	..	30	..	29
7. Cacao ..	23	..	31	..	25
8. Cinnamon ..	13	..	37	..	21
9. Plumbago ..	48	..	17	..	21
10. Coir fibre ..	9	..	17	..	16
11. Citronella oil ..	9	..	9	..	11
12. Coconuts, fresh ..	4	..	3	..	10
13. Skins (dressed and undressed) ..	7	..	10	..	9
14. Tobacco, unmanufactured ..	9	..	6	..	8
15. Coir yarn ..	3	..	11	..	8
16. Poonac ..	—	..	5	..	6
17. Cardamoms ..	3	..	9	..	5

The decreased demand for tea and rubber is reflected in these figures. The prices for coconut products being what they were, all available supplies from Ceylon must have been disposed of. This slight revival in plumbago has not much significance.

The following table shows the principal countries buying Ceylon produce for the last three years, with the percentage of values taken by each :—

	1918. Per Cent.	1919. Per Cent.	1920. Per Cent.
United Kingdom ..	44.72	42.13	47.59
United States of America ..	17.78	33.52	22.8
Holland ..	—	1.33	5.3
British India ..	10	6.83	3.02
Belgium ..	—	2.07	2.14
Canada ..	5.85	1.78	1.78
New South Wales ..	4.87	1.25	1.74
France ..	2.06	2.22	1.71
Denmark ..	—	1.59	1.7
Germany ..	—	.02	1.55
Egypt ..	2.41	1.28	1.47
Norway ..	.07	.51	1.31
Victoria ..	3.62	1.08	1.26
New Zealand ..	.72	.34	1.17
Italy ..	.56	.51	.71
Cape Colony ..	.95	.38	.42
Straits Settlements ..	.49	.49	.39
Japan ..	.61	.20	.37
Natal ..	.36	.16	.32
Philippines ..	.49	.33	.32
South Australia ..	.25	.13	.3
South America (excluding Chili) ..	.66	.16	.27
Sweden ..	—	.1	.19
West Australia ..	.23	.15	.19
Other British Possessions in Africa ..	.4	.30	.16
Spain ..	.03	.11	.13
Newfoundland ..	.12	.10	.12
Queensland ..	.22	.04	.12

The table shows the United Kingdom and United States of America as the most important purchasers. The trade with Germany is re-commencing, the exports to that country being valued at nearly 4 million rupees, equal to about one-fourth of the figure before the war.

Tea.—The quantities exported in millions of pounds during the past seven years were :—

	Million Pounds.		Million Pounds.
1914 ..	193	1918 ..	180
1915 ..	215	1919 ..	208
1916 ..	203	1920 ..	184
1917 ..	195		

There was a reduced demand during the last quarter of the year, the total exported during the first nine months being about five million pounds more than in the corresponding period of 1919. The average price for the year is the lowest since 1913, and showed a considerable drop from 55·86 cents per pound in 1919 to 43·72 cents per pound in the year under review. The distribution among the principal countries with their increases and decreases is shown below :—

	1920. lb.	1919. lb.	Increase. lb.	Decrease. lb.
United Kingdom ..	119,690,793	140,647,501	—	20,956,708
<i>British Possessions.</i>				
British India ..	4,122,167	6,136,696	—	2,014,529
Canada ..	7,123,971	7,753,623	—	629,652
Cape Colony ..	2,037,208	2,198,696	—	161,488
Egypt ..	4,417,990	2,250,862	2,167,128	—
Hong Kong ..	297,041	228,588	68,453	—
Mauritius ..	279,705	95,450	184,255	—
Natal ..	1,622,047	1,002,765	619,282	—
Newfoundland ..	711,118	664,393	46,725	—
New South Wales ..	8,083,413	7,221,974	861,439	—
New Zealand ..	6,131,739	2,063,115	4,068,624	—
Other British Possessions in				
Africa ..	879,136	1,955,923	—	1,076,787
Queensland ..	559,962	189,373	370,589	—
South Australia ..	1,492,056	809,975	682,081	—
Straits Settlements ..	1,099,431	1,044,114	55,317	—
Victoria ..	5,565,347	5,925,960	—	360,613
West Australia ..	918,070	907,651	10,419	—
Other British Possessions ..	491,569	342,788	148,781	—
	45,831,970	40,791,946	9,283,093	4,243,069
Deduct Decrease ..			4,243,069	
Nett Increase ..			5,040,024	
<i>Foreign Countries.</i>				
Chili ..	235,209	88,420	146,789	—
France ..	1,025,277	3,860,614	—	2,835,337
Germany ..	130,992	—	130,992	—
Holland ..	200,210	86,430	113,780	—
Italy ..	134,655	137,195	—	2,540
Japan ..	254,025	150,324	103,701	—
Madagascar ..	104,103	17,494	86,609	—
Mozambique ..	162,350	206,058	—	43,708
Philippines ..	250,977	136,858	114,119	—
South America (excluding Chili) ..	1,198,140	558,739	639,401	—
Turkey in Asia ..	296,440	46,250	250,190	—
United States of America ..	14,735,804	17,534,679	—	2,798,875
Other Foreign Countries ..	519,286	4,298,435	—	3,779,149
	19,247,468	27,121,496	1,585,581	9,459,609
Deduct Increase ..			1,585,581	
Nett Decrease ..			7,874,028	
	1920. lb.	1919. lb.	Decrease. lb.	
Total ..	184,770,231	208,560,943		23,790,712

Exports to the United Kingdom and foreign countries showed a decrease, while those to the British Possessions showed an increase. Russia in Europe took nothing in 1920. Germany took 130,992 lb., as against nothing in 1919.

Products of the Coconut Palm.—The total value of the products of the coconut palm exported was 709 lakhs, as against 870 in 1919. The exports of the three principal products are shown below for a period of six years :—

		Desiccated Coconut. Cwt.		Copra. Cwt.		Coconut Oil. Cwt.
1915	..	349,009	..	1,208,529	..	501,510
1916	..	306,149	..	1,309,939	..	323,017
1917	..	272,059	..	1,078,704	..	434,699
1918	..	203,366	..	1,272,321	..	527,481
1919	..	675,060	..	1,759,525	..	675,999
1920	..	518,735	..	1,357,870	..	507,527

The exports of desiccated coconuts and copra are the largest for the six years, with the exception of 1919. Coconut oil exports were more than in 1915, 1916, and 1917, but less than in the remaining three years.

Desiccated Coconuts.—The figures for desiccated coconut are again large, although not so large as in 1919. Of the total quantity for 1920, the United States of America took 45 per cent. and the United Kingdom 35 per cent. Germany was the next largest buyer with 24,891 cwt. to her credit. Australia and Canada come next in importance. The average price of desiccated coconuts was lower than in the previous year.

Copra.—The countries buying copra are not so numerous as in the case of desiccated coconuts, but among them competition is keener. Holland leads with 395,117 cwt., while the United Kingdom, British India, Belgium, Denmark, and France have taken quantities varying from 113,000 cwt. to 187,000 cwt. each. Germany, too, was a large buyer, and took 96,912 cwt., while Norway (83,002 cwt.), Sweden (10,000 cwt.), India excluding British (2,485 cwt.), and the United States of America (37 cwt.) complete the list. The average price of copra was higher than in 1919.

Coconut Oil.—The United Kingdom maintained her position as the principal buyer, while the United States bought considerably less than in 1919, her purchases for 1919 and 1920 being 147,031 cwt. and 29,267 cwt., respectively, thereby yielding the second position to Holland with 136,135 cwt. to her credit. In 1919 Holland purchased only 10,323 cwt. The other large buyers were Norway (35,359 cwt.) Egypt (32,555 cwt.), Belgium (28,547 cwt.). The average price for the year was Rs. 39·14 per cwt., as against Rs. 37·98 per cwt. in 1919.

TARIFF CHANGES.

The importation of Japanese shaving brushes was prohibited, with effect from July 2, 1920. Natural history specimens other than trophies were exempted from duty, with effect from the same date.

V.—SHIPPING.

3,992 vessels with a tonnage of 9,718,068 have entered the various ports of the Island in 1920, a decrease of 138 vessels and a tonnage of 270,108 as compared with 1919.

The following table gives the number of vessels and their tonnage under four general heads for the past two years :—

	1919.		1920.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Merchant vessels (with cargo and in ballast) ..	1,762	4,669,598	2,016	5,830,177
Merchant vessels (called to coal) ..	1,177	4,086,379	967	3,171,546
Native sailing vessels ..	1,018	103,413	867	86,737
Warships and Government chartered vessels ..	173	1,128,786	142	629,606
	<u>4,130</u>	<u>9,988,176</u>	<u>3,992</u>	<u>9,718,066</u>

The decrease in the number of sailing vessels is probably due to rice not being available for transport owing to Government control.

Omitting warships and transports, the comparative distribution according to nationality for 1919 and 1920 was as follows :—

Nationality.	1919.		1920.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
British ..	2,168	6,467,584	1,972	5,576,509
British Colonial ..	1,018	103,413	867	86,737
Total British Vessels ..	3,186	6,570,997	2,839	5,663,246
American ..	31	87,499	105	384,089
Austrian ..	1	4,915	1	3,782
Belgium ..	6	12,207	4	10,945
Brazilian ..	—	—	2	8,484
Chinese ..	5	11,846	2	3,761
Danish ..	16	43,981	29	59,882
Dutch ..	79	272,573	176	679,610
French ..	72	317,776	155	621,665
German ..	—	—	—	—
Greek ..	17	43,735	13	30,365
Italian ..	42	134,877	82	271,158
Japanese ..	364	1,054,331	329	1,105,625
Norwegian ..	82	165,784	63	112,321
Russian ..	16	34,482	10	29,508
Siamese ..	1	803	—	—
Spanish ..	17	40,390	14	33,766
Swedish ..	21	57,341	26	70,273
Portuguese ..	1	5,853	—	—
Total Foreign Vessels ..	771	2,288,393	1,011	3,425,214

PORT COMMISSION.

Owing to the unsatisfactory position of food supplies in the early part of the year, and to the depression in the tea and rubber markets in the latter months, it was necessary to continue the policy of economy, which has been pursued since the war, and only the most essential works were undertaken by the Port Commission.

Good progress was made with the preparation of the Oil Installations Dépôt site at Kolonnawa, and the construction of the oil bunkering and discharge jetties in the harbour. Two companies have already taken possession of the lots assigned to them at the dépôt, and have commenced the erection of the necessary tanks and buildings. It is hoped that the dépôt will be actually working by August, 1921.

The Anglo-Persian Oil Company's temporary liquid fuel installation at Blomendahl was brought into operation in July, 1920, liquid fuel in bulk being then for the first time discharged at the Graving Dock Guide Pier by pipe line.

Sites for measuring tanks have been allocated to the other companies at Blomendahl, and will shortly be handed over.

The branch of the new Harbour Railway from the Main line to Kolonnawa is complete, and ballast trains were able to run through the remaining section to the harbour before the end of the year. By the time the Kolonnawa Oil Installations are ready, it is hoped that the Harbour Railway will also be in working order.

Similarly, good progress was made towards the completion of the Colombo Lake Development Scheme, and it is anticipated that full communication between the lake and the harbour will be possible before the middle of 1921. The Lakeside Warehouse is complete, and as soon as the canal is dredged will be available for use as an Export Warehouse.

The new bridge leading to the Passenger Jetty, the improvements to York street and Church street, and the new road opened from York street to Leyden Bastion road were all completed.

The only increase in the warehouse area was the addition of 7,350 square feet, which was secured by the conversion of the passage between two warehouses into a new warehouse at Delft.

The dredger "Sir John Coode," which had been undergoing very extensive repairs, resumed dredging in the harbour in the early part of the year, and also carried out the dredging connected with the construction of the oil jetties. The trials of the new dredger "Sir William Matthews," which is being constructed by Messrs. Fleming & Ferguson, Limited, of Paisley, are expected to be completed shortly. The vessel is a twin screw bucket hopper dredger of 1,200 tons, capable of dredging to a depth of 45 feet.

The nett tonnage of vessels (sailing and steam) visiting Colombo Harbour in 1920 amounted to 8,849,116 tons; in addition, 132 warships and transports with a gross tonnage of 629,608 tons and coasting vessels with a nett tonnage of 13,053 tons entered the port.

Thirty-eight vessels were docked during the year, and 31 vessels were taken on to the Patent Slip; 20 vessels were fumigated.

The receipts from the Graving Dock were Rs. 68,243·54 and from the Patent Slip Rs. 2,714, against Rs. 100,868 and Rs. 11,650, respectively, in 1919; the receipts on account of fumigation were Rs. 5,170, as against Rs. 9,767 in 1919.

The expenditure of the Colombo Port Commission (exclusive of the work carried out by the Public Works Department) during the financial year 1919-20 (October 1, 1919, to September 30, 1920) amounted to Rs. 3,963,955·89, including a sum of Rs. 867,009·27 expended on the acquisition of land and the preparation of the site of the Oil Installations Dépôt at Kolonnawa; the expenditure on work carried out by the Public Works Department for the Port Commission was Rs. 52,826·68, making a total of Rs. 4,016,782·57 for Port Commission services. In addition to the above, a sum of Rs. 2,750·29 was spent during the financial year 1919-20 on work connected with war services, and disbursements on account of other departments amounted to Rs. 376,776·38 making a total expenditure of Rs. 4,393,558·95. The revenue during the same period amounted to Rs. 3,542,623·81, including a sum of Rs. 343,842·23, the value of trawlers and barges sold.

The recruitment of staff for the Government of India for service overseas was finally stopped in March, 1920, only 14 men being recruited during the three months to that date. A considerable amount of work was, however, carried out during the year in dealing with inquiries—both verbal and written—from relatives of men recruited regarding allotments, health, whereabouts, date of return, &c., and inquiries from returned men as to balance of pay due. The total number recruited by the Colombo Rivercraft Committee was 1,218. So far only 525 men have reported at the Port Commission Office on termination of engagement.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Ordinances were passed during the year 1920. Of these, the greater part are Ordinances amending previous Ordinances, in order to cure defects found in administering them or to meet present requirements.

The principal, new or consolidating, Ordinances of purely local interest were :—

- (a) The Education Ordinance (No. 1), which deals with the subject on more comprehensive lines than has obtained hitherto, and by which the Government assumes a larger share of the responsibility in education ; and
- (b) The Local Government Ordinance (No. 11), by which provision is made for the creation of local bodies with a majority of elected members possessing extensive powers over public thoroughfares, public health, public services, and general local wants and interests. In conjunction with the local bodies, and with a view to securing uniformity and efficiency of work, there will be a Central Local Government Board as a co-ordinating and controlling authority.

Among the Ordinances of less importance were :—

- (a) The Midwives Ordinance (No. 2), based in The Midwives Act, 1902, which provides for the employment of properly qualified and registered midwives only in areas where they are available in sufficient numbers.
- (b) The Buffalo Protection Ordinance (No. 17), passed in order to restrict the wholesale slaughter of buffaloes for meat, and the consequent depletion of the stock available for agricultural purposes.

Ordinances of more than local interest or specially affecting aliens were :—

- (a) The Treaty of Peace (Enforcement) Ordinance (No. 7), making the necessary modifications to enable the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, of His Majesty in Council to be brought into force in the Island.
- (b) The Former Enemy Aliens (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10), which, among other things, modifies the provisions of the principal Ordinance on the same lines as has been done in England.
- (c) The Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14), which gives legislative sanction to the practice of preventive disinfection of ships in harbour and of recovering the expenses incurred by Government in that connection.
- (d) The Restriction of Imports and Exports Ordinance (No. 19), which provides for the exercise by the Governor of powers similar to those granted by emergency legislation during the war (Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1914 and 30 of 1916) of restricting imports and exports for a period of five years from the date of termination of the war.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Schools in Ceylon may be broadly divided into two classes : English and vernacular. The vernacular schools are attended by about 90 per cent. of the school-going population. The English schools provide (a) elementary education, leading up to the Elementary School-leaving Certificate Examination ; (b) secondary education, leading up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination and the Intermediate Examinations in Arts and Science of London University. There are also classes for commercial subjects in some of the larger schools. There is an increasing demand for English, and an attempt

has been made to meet this demand by a scheme of Government Central English Schools for rural districts, where children may receive an English education. Two such schools have been opened, one at Henaratgoda and another at Piliyandala, in the Western Province.

The inclusion of Sinhalese and Tamil in the London Matriculation and Intermediate Arts Examinations and the Cambridge Examinations has given a stimulus to the study of the vernacular languages. Several secondary schools are now teaching Sinhalese and Tamil. English has suffered in the past from Latin being taught in the schools to boys from Sinhalese and Tamil-speaking homes, who have not acquired a sound knowledge of English, and have little facility in expressing themselves in any but their own language.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

In 1920 there were 919 Government vernacular schools, with an attendance of 97,866 boys and 33,454 girls. There were also 1,868 aided schools, with an attendance of 123,752 boys and 73,888 girls. Of these, 275 were estate schools, with an attendance of 9,977 boys and 1,309 girls. A school for the deaf and blind started in 1912 receives grant at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem per child on the average number of children on the roll during the year. The total sum expended by Government on vernacular education in 1920 was Rs. 1,603,557.45, of which approximately two-fifths were spent on Government schools and three-fifths on aided schools.

The Rural Schools Ordinance is now in force in all districts of the Island. The Town Schools Ordinance is in force in the following towns :—

Municipalities	..	Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.
Local Board Towns :—		
Western Province	..	Kalutara, Moratuwa, and Negombo.
Central Province	..	Gampola, Hatton-Dikoya, Matale, Nawalapitiya, and Nuwara Eliya.
Province of Sabaragamuwa		Kegalla and Ratnapura.
North-Central Province	..	Anuradhapura.
North-Western Province	..	Kurunegala and Chilaw.
Eastern Province	..	Batticaloa and Trincomalee.
Northern Province	..	Jaffna.
Southern Province	..	Matara.

The new Ordinance dealing with education in the Island and constituting a Board of Education was passed during the year, but only that part of it relating to the new Board of Education was brought into force.

Another Government vernacular town school was completed and opened during the year, making the fourth town school opened since Colombo was brought under the Town Schools Ordinance.

The annual course of lectures in sanitation and hygiene was given to teachers of vernacular schools at the Government Medical College during the midsummer vacation. Thirty-seven teachers attended the lectures, and at the examination held at the end of the course 37 gained certificates.

Lectures were also given during the year in first aid for teachers of vernacular Government and grant-in-aid schools, and in school organization and management for estate school teachers. The object of the latter course of lectures was to give estate school teachers, who are nearly all uncertificated men, some idea of proper methods of teaching and school organization. The lectures to teachers in first aid will be continued at as many centres as possible.

SCHOOLS TEACHING ENGLISH.

In 1920 there were 278 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 48,125 pupils, of whom 37,730 were boys and 10,395 girls. There is one Government secondary school in Colombo, with an average attendance of 539. The cost to Government of this school for the year was Rs. 56,149.75, and the fees recovered amounted to Rs. 34,648. There were 21 State-aided secondary schools, particulars of which are shown below :—

Return of Secondary Schools, 1920.

Province and Management.	Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Roll and Average Attendance on March 31, 1920.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attend- ance.
<i>Western Province.</i>					
Church of England	.. St. Thomas's College B	.. 485	.. —	.. 485	.. 432
Do.	.. Bishop's College G	.. 8	.. 190	.. 198	.. 165
Church Missionary Society	C. M. S. Ladies' College G	.. 46	.. 165	.. 211	.. 160
Private	.. Panadure, St. John's M	.. 151	.. 18	.. 169	.. 162
Roman Catholic	.. St. Joseph's College B	.. 593	.. —	.. 593	.. 484
Do.	.. St. Benedict's B	.. 1,136	.. —	.. 1,136	.. 978
Do.	.. St. Bridget's Convent G	.. 81	.. 266	.. 347	.. 264
Do.	.. Bambalapitiya Convent G	.. 89	.. 274	.. 363	.. 262
Wesleyan	.. Wesley College B	.. 413	.. —	.. 413	.. 338
Do.	.. Methodist College G	.. 21	.. 231	.. 252	.. 215
<i>Southern Province.</i>					
Roman Catholic	.. St. Aloysius's College B	.. 479	.. —	.. 479	.. 411
Wesleyan	.. Richmond College B	.. 394	.. 3	.. 397	.. 336
<i>Central Province.</i>					
Church Missionary Society	Kandy, Hillwood G	.. 29	.. 85	.. 114	.. 92
Do.	.. Trinity College B	.. 564	.. —	.. 564	.. 491
Roman Catholic	.. St. Anthony's College B	.. 420	.. 13	.. 433	.. 373
Wesleyan	.. Kandy G	.. 33	.. 229	.. 262	.. 193
<i>Northern Province.</i>					
American	.. Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai B	367	.. —	.. 367	.. 285
Church Missionary Society	Chundikuli G	.. 55	.. 146	.. 201	.. 151
Do.	.. St. John's College B	.. 450	.. —	.. 450	.. 396
Roman Catholic	.. St. Patrick's College B	.. 611	.. —	.. 611	.. 549
Wesleyan	.. Jaffna Central College B	.. 398	.. —	.. 398	.. 326
21		6,823	1,620	8,443	7,063

In most of the larger schools candidates are prepared for the Senior and Junior Cambridge School Certificate Examinations. In 1919 the number of candidates who presented themselves and the results obtained were :—

	Candidates.	Honours.	Other Passes.
Senior	651	38	345
Junior	871	82	432

There are special syllabuses for Ceylon students in English, Science, and Needlework, special stress being laid on the necessity for obtaining a high standard in English.

The results of the London University Examinations in 1920 showed that 396 candidates from Ceylon presented themselves for the Matriculation Examination, 124 of whom passed. In addition, 14 candidates passed the First Examination for Medical Degrees and 8 the Second Examination, Part I. 62 candidates presented themselves for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 36 for the Intermediate Examination in Science, 13 for the Intermediate Examination in Laws. Twenty candidates presented themselves for the B.A. degree, 2 for the B.Sc., but the results of these examinations have not yet reached Ceylon.

The encouragement offered by Government takes the form of grants or scholarships. In the majority of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations as laid down in the schedules of the Code, but in some of the more advanced schools the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Special grants are paid on account of buildings and equipment. The grants paid to English schools in the financial year 1919-20 amounted to Rs. 514,673·85.

Three Government scholarships are now offered, one on the results of the Intermediate Arts Examination of the London University, and two on the results of the Intermediate Examination in Science. Scholarships are tenable for three years, and are of the value of £250 per annum, with free passage and £50 outfit allowance. The holders may join any British University or any recognized engineering institution in the United Kingdom. The third scholarship, which was offered for the first time this year, is awarded on condition that the holder studies agriculture and natural science, and on completing his course accepts an appointment in the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon. The scholarship was not awarded for 1920, as only one candidate entered for it, but subsequently withdrew.

An exhibition of Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 a year has been offered by the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Member of the Legislative Council, to the Ceylon student who obtains the highest marks in botany and either chemistry or agricultural science in the Cambridge Senior School Certificate Examination.

The member of the Buddhist priesthood—Suriyagoda Sumangala Thero—who had been sent to the University of Oxford for two years on an annual scholarship provided by Government and private subscriptions in equal shares, has had his scholarship extended for a further period of six months until he takes his degree in Oriental Languages.

The following is the scale of fees charged in the various classes of English schools in the Island :—

<i>Elementary Schools.</i>		Per	Monsem.
		Rs.	
Infant Department and Standard I. and Standard II.	..	1	
Standards III. to V.	..	2	
Standards VI. to VIII.	..	3	
<i>Secondary Schools.</i>			
Lower schools, as in Elementary Schools.			
Standard V. to VIII. and Junior School Examination Class	..	5	
Higher Classes	..	7	

GOVERNMENT TRAINING COLLEGE.

The Government Training College consists of four departments : English, men and women ; Anglo-vernacular, men only ; Sinhalese, men ; and Sinhalese, women. The object is to supply trained teachers for aided English schools and Government Anglo-vernacular and vernacular schools. At the beginning of 1920 the number of students in training was in the English side 37 men and 45 women, in the Anglo-vernacular 13 men, in the Sinhalese 40 men, 40 women.

Trained teachers at present command good salaries, and there is a good demand for their services.

A class of 20 boys under eleven at time of examination for admission was formed in 1918 from boys in vernacular schools. Further classes of 20 each were formed in 1919 and 1920. The board and lodging of these boys are paid for by public subscription. Their tuition is free. The boys of the first batch are now up to the average of Standard VII., and are much in advance of boys of their own age who have been learning English for several years. These boys knew no English when they joined.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

In 1920 the aided industrial schools, which are 39 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 28,960. The trades taught were carpentry, dressmaking, tailoring, lace-making, embroidery, and gardening. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory for youthful offenders. It is managed by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of some 300 acres and excellent buildings, towards the cost of which Government has contributed. 331 youthful offenders are at present receiving instruction in this school, and an allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each offender. The amount so paid in the year 1920 was Rs. 44,809·91. Another important industrial school is that at Wellawatta, Colombo, under the management of the Wesleyan Mission. The amount of grant paid to this institution in 1920 amounted to Rs. 4,800.

An impetus was given to home industries which are taught in different parts of the Island by the appointment of two Inspectors of Industries, one for weaving schools and one for carpentry and general industrial work. Carpentry is taught in 23 schools, and 18 schools have carpentry sheds with instructors attached. Five schools are engaged in cloth weaving, and 12 others are awaiting equipment. Printing and bookbinding are taught in 4 schools. Shoemaking and smithy work in 2 schools. Cane and rattan work in 3 schools. One school is ready equipped for lacquer work, and 2 are being equipped. One school is being equipped for pottery work. Basket-making and mat-weaving are taught in several schools. Hat-making is making good progress in the Kalutara District, and in 16 schools there are classes in basket-making for children.

AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION.

Elementary agricultural instruction is given by a scheme of school gardens conducted in connection with Government schools. The gardens are under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture. There is a Superintendent of School Gardens, who is assisted by three Inspectors. The total number of registered Government school gardens at the end of 1920 was 389. The number of gardens attached to grant-in-aid schools was 95 ; 150 school gardens are awaiting registration. Seeds and implements are supplied by the Department of Agriculture, and prizes are offered for competition.

Thirteen Government teachers underwent a special course of training at Peradeniya. The scheme has been supplemented by the establishment of home gardens in large numbers, seed being provided for boys who undertake to plant up vegetables in their home compounds.

Forty teachers are being trained in the boarding school for teaching agriculture and English to vernacular teachers, which was opened at Henaratgoda last year.

TECHNICAL.

In addition to night classes in building construction, mechanical engineering, electric wiring, carpentry and joinery, drawing class for carpenters, motor drivers, and mechanics, the following new classes were formed :—English, shorthand, typewriting, bookkeeping, accountancy, methods of business, and commercial arithmetic. These classes secured good attendances.

Steps are being taken to open a technical school in the Jaffna peninsula, and 62 scholarships of Rs. 100 per annum each for four years have been subscribed.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Domestic science is now being introduced as one of the subjects in the curriculum for girls' schools. A qualified Supervisor of Domestic Science assumed duties on May 12, 1920, and it is proposed to start classes early next year in the domestic science rooms, especially re-modelled and equipped for the purpose at the Government Training College.

Vacation classes at the Training College were held in August. Short courses were arranged for English teachers in the following subjects :—Geography, nature study, domestic science, and drill.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The new laboratories for the University College are nearing completion. The new Royal College building has now been started. When this building is completed, the present Royal College will be available for the University College.

Professors have already been appointed in English and Physics, and it is proposed to start lectures in the following subjects early next year, temporary lecturers being employed pending the appointment of the remainder of the permanent staff :—

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) English Language and Literature. | (8) Tamil. |
| (2) Classics and Philosophy. | (9) Sinhalese. |
| (3) Modern History and Economics. | (10) Botany. |
| (4) Physics. | (11) Zoology. |
| (5) Chemistry. | (12) Geology. |
| (6) Mathematics. | (13) Geography. |
| (7) Sanskrit and Pali. | (14) Education. |

A strong committee has been appointed by the Hebdomadal Council of the University of Oxford to advise in the course of studies and conduct of the Ceylon University College.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

With the object of encouraging home industries and the arts and crafts of the Island, an industrial exhibition was held in January at the Government Training College, and proved a great success. The exhibits received were representative of not only the ordinary school industries and handicrafts, but also of the indigenous arts and crafts of the Island. Parties of craftsmen gave exhibitions daily of the various processes of manufacture.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCES.

A conference for Inspectors was held during the year in Kandy, at which addresses were given on various subjects dealing with education, followed by discussions and demonstrations. The conference was very well attended.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH, VITAL STATISTICS, AND METEOROLOGY.

The general health of the Colony was satisfactory, on the whole, during the year. The epidemic of influenza, which caused the death-rate for the two preceding years to be abnormally high, partially, though not entirely, disappeared, and health conditions returned to normal. Malaria was still prevalent in the North and the Wann, but even in these districts there was an improvement over previous years.

The only epidemic of importance during the year was an outbreak of plague in Kandy. Plague in Colombo was worse than in 1919.

Plague in Kandy.—A case of plague was detected at Dhanushkodi on April 22, 1920, and was traced to Kandy, but the outbreak in Kandy itself did not assume serious proportion till later in the year. The centre of the infection was in Castle Hill street and Colombo street, but the origin cannot be definitely traced. The town was proclaimed an infected area on June 18, and there were 120 cases in all. The worst months were July (33), August (44), and September (21), after which the disease died away, there being only 3 cases in October and 1 in November, and no case whatever thereafter. The disease occurred mostly in the bubonic form (90 cases). Thirty cases were septicæmic, but no case of pneumonic plague occurred. There were 98 deaths in all, and 22 recoveries. The greatest mortality was among the Moors. Notification of plague is, of course, compulsory, but unfortunately many cases were concealed, and this caused difficulties, and led to the spread of the disease. Patients were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, direct contacts to the segregation camp, and indirect contacts, who could not afford a separate house, were accommodated in the military barracks. 250 persons were inoculated against the disease. This was successful in all cases except one, that of a disinfecting cooly, who contracted plague. A tagram fence was erected around the original plague area, but a system of underground barrel drains in Kandy made it difficult to confine the disease. Houses were systematically disinfected and cleaned, and a vigorous rat destruction campaign carried on. Special precautions were adopted regulating the storage and removal of grain. A Board of Improvement has been established in Kandy to deal especially with the "alley" population of that town.

Plague in Colombo.—235 cases of plague were recorded during the year, as against 87 during 1919, and an annual average of 201 during the six years 1914–19.

The total case mortality was 94·9 per cent., as against the average of 93·6. There were 93 cases of septicæmic plague, all of which, as usual, proved fatal; while of 142 cases of bubonic plague, 130 died. This is the first year in which the number of bubonic cases has exceeded the number of septicæmic cases.

The increased prevalence of this disease, which was experienced towards the end of 1919, was maintained during January of 1920, after which it fell to below the average during the months February to October. It then steadily increased until a maximum was reached during December, in which month 77 cases were recorded.

The majority of the cases occurred, as usual, amongst young adults, many more males than females being attacked. The disease was as hitherto almost entirely confined to the tenement areas of the town, the vast majority of the victims being people who slept upon mats on the floor within easy reach of fleas. The chief centres of the disease were the Sea street-Kochchikade area, Malay street in Slave Island, Mosque lane in Colpetty, Rudd's lane and Dean's road in Maradana, and Ferry street in New Bazaar.

Rat plague was for the most part distributed much in the same manner as the human cases, but the Sea street-Pettah areas showed an undue proportion of the total cases. During the year 106,833 rats were trapped, 3,212 were killed by the Clayton machines, and 138 were found dead. 17,013 of the trapped rats and all the Claytonized and dead rats, i.e., 20,363 in all, were examined bacteriologically. Of these, 137 or 0·67 per cent. were infected. The percentage of infection was 0·34 per cent. amongst trapped rats, 18·11 per cent. amongst rats found dead, and 1·68 per cent. amongst rats killed by the Clayton fumigators.

The small proportion of rats found dead is one of the most remarkable features of the experience in Colombo. The experience so often recorded in India of plague-stricken rats coming out and wandering about in a dazed manner in the open very rarely occurs here.

In addition to the usual measures of isolation of patients and contacts, pesterining, Claytonizing and rat destruction, thorough turning out, and cleansing of all the contents of the houses in infected areas is now carried out. Partial unroofing so as to expose rat holes on the top of the party walls has also been undertaken.

The annexed statements show the chief statistical features for the seven years since plague first appeared in Ceylon :—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	Average 1914 to 1919.	1920.
Total cases	413	139	291	207	70	87	201	235
Total deaths	381	128	273	196	69	82	188	223
Septicæmic cases	247*	81*	159	124	41	50	117	93
Septicæmic deaths	246	80	159	124	41	50	117	93
Bubonic cases	166	58	132	83	29	37	84	142
Bubonic deaths	135	48	114	72	28	32	71	130
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Total case mortality	92·2	92·8	93·8	94·7	98·6	94·3	93·5	94·9
Septicæmic mortality	99·6	98·7	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
Bubonic mortality	81·3	82·7	86·4	86·7	96·6	86·5	84·5	91·5

* The cases for 1914 and 1915 each includes one septicæmic recovery, but the diagnosis was not in either case confirmed bacteriologically, and may have been erroneous.

Monthly Incidence of Plague Cases.

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	Average 1914 to 1919.	1920.
January	4	19	17	25	13	—	13	25
February	67	6	18	40	18	1	25	20
March	58	3	18	61	10	3	25·5	3
April	28	3	14	34	11	—	15	3
May	29	3	11	11	2	—	9	4
June	49	1	36	3	9	—	16	3
July	47	5	43	6	2	—	17	12
August	40	20	35	1	1	2	16·5	7
September	18	21	25	3	—	5	12	18
October	23	24	24	7	—	18	16	28
November	24	10	25	10	2	34	17·5	34
December	26	24	25	6	2	24	18	77
Total	413	139	291	207	70	87	201	235
Monthly mean	34·4	11·5	24·2	17·2	5·8	7·2	16·8	19·6

Anchylostomiasis.—The campaign against this very prevalent disease, which was begun in 1916 by officers of the International Health Commission, who are doing excellent work in Ceylon, in conjunction with the Civil Medical Department, was continued, but the estate work was, with the exception of a few outlying estates, confined entirely to the Central Province throughout the year. The Nawalapitiya, Wattegama, Maturata, and Hatton areas were completed. The rate of infection was found to be from 95 per cent. to 99 per cent. of the estate population, mostly South Indian Tamils. 126,529 persons were treated, of whom 96,477 were cured.

Village campaigns were also continued in the low-country Sinhalese districts, particularly in Henaratgoda, Veyangoda, Panadure, and Kalutara, and neighbouring villages in the Western Province. A number of temporary dispensaries have been opened, and large numbers of patients have been treated in this way.

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POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Island on December 31, 1920, was 4,806,725,* against 4,757,596 at the end of 1919, an increase of 49,129, or 1·3 per cent. that of the previous year. This increase is due to the excess of 30,764 births over deaths and 18,365 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies on estates. The population is estimated to have increased by 700,375,* or 18 per cent. on the enumeration of the Census of 1911. In the case of the estimate of the European population, the number is likely to be somewhat untrustworthy owing to conditions brought about by the war. There has not been available a reliable record of the actual number of the Europeans who left on war service and of those who arrived since the conclusion of the war. It was ascertained that 956 Europeans left the Island for the different theatres of war within the knowledge of the Military authorities prior to 1918, and this number was deducted from the estimated number of Europeans then resident in Ceylon. Since then no account of European arrivals and departures has been taken. The forthcoming Census should show how far the estimates of the population of the principal races, which are shown below, approximate the actual number :—

			Estimated Population on December 31, 1920.		Proportion per 1,000 of the Total Population.
Europeans .	..	..	7,428	..	1·5
Burghers ..	..	..	29,677	..	6·2
Sinhalese ..	..	..	3,017,303	..	627·7
Tamils ..	..	..	1,442,867	..	300·2
Moors ..	..	..	278,989	..	58·0
Malays ..	..	..	14,330	..	3·0
Others ..	..	..	16,131	..	3·4

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages registered in 1920, exclusive of the Muhammadan, was 21,818, of which 16,382 were among the general community and 5,436 among the Kandyan. The number shows an increase of 2,949 on the previous year, but a decrease of 1,541 on the average of the past decade. The number of persons married per 1,000 of the estimated population, exclusive of the Muhammadan population, was equal to a rate of 9·8, as against 8·6 in the previous year and 11·6 the average rate of the preceding ten years. The economic distress in the country has in no small measure contributed to the low marriage rate for the last two years.

BIRTHS.

The births registered in 1920 numbered 163,720 and were equivalent to a rate of 34·3 per thousand of the estimated population. The number is 2,317 above that of the previous year, while the rate is higher by ·1 per 1,000. The average rate for the past decade is 37·7. The number of male children born during 1920 was 83,557 and female children 80,162. The birth of a hermaphrodite was registered in Matara District. The proportion of male children per every 100 female children born was 104, the same as in 1919.

The births registered on the estates were 23,926, and correspond to a rate of 47·1 per 1,000 of the estate population at the Census of 1911, as against 43·0 in 1919. When the rate is calculated on the estimated population on estates at the middle of 1920, it is 27·0, as against 25·8 in 1919.

In the principal towns 18,762 births were registered, or 2,283 more than in the previous year. The urban birth-rate was 28·2, as against 25·4 in 1919. The birth-rate in the city of Colombo was 24·4.

* The Census figures of the C-

mate is too generous. The provisional rate is 54 per cent. over 1911.

GOVERNMENT MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

There are in the Island 86 Government hospitals, including a leper hospital and a hospital for chronic cases of tuberculosis, equipped with modern hospital furniture and surgical appliances. The number of beds in the institutions ranges from 12 to 687, while the number of persons accommodated in the Lunatic Asylum varied between 911 and 1,070. In addition to the hospitals, there are 463 Government outdoor dispensaries. The owners of estates have provided 63 estate hospitals, receiving in terms of the Medical Wants Ordinance a rebate on export duty, and 649 estate dispensaries, receiving drugs free from Government to the value of 50 cents per labourer per annum.

At the close of the year the new Leper Asylum at Mantivu in the Eastern Province was nearing completion, and it is expected to be opened about the middle of 1921.

The general rebuilding scheme in contemplation for the improvement of the Medical College remained deferred. The full course of training at the Ceylon Medical College is five years for the medical students and two years for the apothecary students. A diploma in medicine, surgery, and midwifery (which can be registered in the United Kingdom) is granted to successful medical students. The apothecary students are employed by Government after they qualify in the examination.

The following were the attendances and passes during the past two years :—

	Attendances.		Passes.	
	Medical.	Apothecary.	Medical.	Apothecary.
1918, October, to 1919, March ..	187	78	3	9
1919, May, to 1919, July ..	181	65	14	3
1919, October, to 1920, March ..	201	74	6	10
1920, May, to 1920, July ..	181	60	5	11

The Government institutions in Colombo include a Bacteriological Institute, a Pasteur Institute, a General Hospital of 687 beds, an Ophthalmic Hospital, a Lying-in Home, a Hospital for Women and Children, an Anti-tuberculosis Institute fitted with an up-to-date X-ray apparatus, and a Hospital for Infectious Diseases. There are special dispensaries at Kandy and Galle for the treatment of eye diseases.

ASYLUMS.

The Lunatic Asylum contained 966 inmates on December 31, 1920. As there is very considerable overcrowding in the present building, Government is erecting an up-to-date and thoroughly equipped asylum building a few miles out of Colombo, with accommodation for 1,000 patients and for the necessary staff and servants. The number of patients treated in the Asylum during 1920 was 1,734 (1,095 males and 639 females). The number discharged was 595 (434 males and 161 females). These figures include those of the House of Observation. Temporary accommodation has been provided for 150 inmates at Matara to relieve the overcrowding.

The Leper Asylum is situated at Hendala 6 miles, from Colombo, and contained 485 patients at the end of the year. The total number treated during 1920 was 551. A small establishment of lepers exists at Kalmunai, in the Eastern Province, and has accommodation for 30. As stated above, a leper colony is being erected at Mantivu, a small island on the lagoon in the neighbourhood of Batticaloa.

A Home for Incurables containing 80 beds is administered by a committee of Government officials and representatives of the public. The enlargement of this institution is under consideration with a view to accommodate the large number of chronic cases now remaining in hospital.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Island on December 31, 1920, was 4,806,725,* as against 4,757,596 at the end of 1919, an increase of 49,129, or 1·3 per cent. on that of the previous year. This increase is due to the excess of 30,764 births over deaths and 18,365 arrivals over departures of Indian coolies on estates. The population is estimated to have increased by 700,375,* or 18 per cent. on the enumeration of the Census of 1911. In the case of the estimate of the European population, the number is likely to be somewhat untrustworthy owing to conditions brought about by the war. There has not been available any reliable record of the actual number of the Europeans who left on war service and of those who arrived since the conclusion of the war. It was ascertained that 956 Europeans left the Island for the different theatres of war within the knowledge of the Military authorities prior to 1918, and this number was deducted from the estimated number of Europeans then resident in Ceylon. Since then no account of European arrivals and departures has been taken. The forthcoming Census should show how far the estimates of the population of the principal races, which are shown below, approximate the actual number :—

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* The Census of 1921 has shown that this estimate is too generous. The provisional figures of the Census are 4,802,477, an increase of 9·54 per cent. over 1911.

DEATHS.

The deaths registered in 1920 were 132,956, representing a rate of 27·9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The number is very much lower than that registered in 1919 (168,323), which was the highest total registered in any year. It is also lower than the number registered in 1918, but higher than that registered in the three years previous to 1918. The rate shows an improvement on the average rate for the past decade of 2·0 per 1,000 persons. The comparatively low death-rate for the year indicates that the country has more or less returned to normal health after the severe influenza epidemic.

The mortality on the estates, too, was lower than in 1919, for there were registered 21,430 deaths in 1920, as against 24,127 in 1919. The standardized rate per 1,000 of the estate population at the Census of 1911 was 52·0, as against 58·5 in 1919. Calculated on the estimated population on estates at the middle of the year, the standardized rate was 29·8.

In the principal towns the mortality during the year was a little above the previous one, the total deaths registered being 23,229, as against 22,844 in 1919. The standardized rate of mortality of residents in the towns was 29·0 per 1,000, as against 29·8 in the previous year. In the city of Colombo the death-rate was 27·1.

Infant Mortality.

Of the total deaths registered during the year, 29,792, or 22 per cent., were of children under 1 year of age, corresponding to a rate of 182 per 1,000 births registered. The rate for the year shows a distinct improvement on the previous year (223), and compares favourably with the average rate for the past decade (195) and with the rate for 1918 (188). The mortality of infants on the estates, too, showed an improvement, and it was equal to a rate of 224, as against 252 in 1919. In the principal towns the infant mortality corresponded to a rate of 228 per 1,000 births registered, or 46 per 1,000 above the Island rate and 4 per 1,000 higher than the rate on estates. In 1919 the rate in the towns was 259. The mortality of male infants in the Island, which is usually higher than the female, repeated itself in 1920 also, for during the year 189 out of every 1,000 male children born and 175 out of every 1,000 females are found to have died before attaining the age of one year.

Causes of Death.

The causes of death in the Island have been classified according to the international or Bertillon system since 1911. Corresponding to a decreased mortality, the deaths reported from most of the principal causes were less in 1920 than in 1919. As usual, pyrexia heads the list of causes with 18,582 deaths, as against 22,878 in 1919. All the deaths attributed to fever by the rural registrars are assigned to pyrexia, and there is no doubt that very many of these deaths would under proper diagnosis have been returned otherwise. The death-rate per million of the estimated population of the Island from some of the principal causes for 1920 and 1919 are given below :—

	1920.	1919.
Diarrhoea	2,660	3,260
Infantile convulsions	2,594	3,302
Pneumonia	1,396	2,276
Dysentery	884	801
Influenza	763	4,829
Anchylostomiasis	683	552
Phthisis	657	747
Malaria and malarial cachexia	315	329
Premature birth and congenital defects	301	320
Puerperal septicemia	258	357
Bronchitis	239	247
Enteric fever	182	139

Influenza.—The deaths from influenza, which in the previous year numbered 22,814 and in 1918 19,102, have considerably decreased during the year, the number being only 3,643, or less than a sixth of the deaths in the previous year. The decrease was noticeable in each quarter of the year, though in the third the number of deaths was slightly above the second. However, the number of deaths during the year cannot be said to be negligible, as, previous to the epidemic in 1918, cases of influenza were few and far between. It is also worthy of note that the deaths from pneumonia, which in the majority of cases was but a complication of influenza, have also decreased appreciably, for the number of deaths was 6,666 in 1920, as against 9,200 in 1919.

Plague.—During the year the plague caused the deaths of 319 persons. In the previous year the number attributed to this cause was very much less, being only 79. There has been a sudden increase in the number of plague deaths during the second half of the year. Out of the total number, only 72 deaths were registered during the months of January to June. The deaths from July began to grow till in the month of December alone there were registered 67 deaths (65 in Colombo), or about a fourth of the number registered during the rest of the year. As many as 209 deaths were registered in the city of Colombo. In the town of Kandy the outbreak in May continued till about October, and caused the deaths of 82 persons. Three deaths were registered in Kalutara District, 2 in Jaffna, 1 in Matara, and 1 in Mannar.

Cholera.—130 deaths were registered from cholera, all of which were in the first quarter of the year, excepting 2 in the second. Several of them were reported from Badulla and Batticaloa, due probably to infection from Hambantota District, where the disease prevailed during the latter part of 1919.

Affections produced by External Causes.

Accidents.—2,499 deaths were registered from all forms of accidents, representing a rate of 523 per million of the estimated population. From drowning alone 514 persons lost their lives, the rate per million being 108. There were 605 deaths attributed to fall from trees, corresponding to a rate of 127 per million. Burns caused 242 deaths; of these, 61 were due to the bottle lamp.

Snake Bite.—261 deaths, as against 224 in 1919, were due to snake bite. The rate per million persons is 55.

Homicide.—227 deaths were attributed to homicide, as against 229 in 1919. The number for 1920 corresponds to a rate of 48 per million persons.

Suicide.—249 deaths were returned as due to suicide, corresponding to a rate of 52 per million persons, the same as in the previous year. The number of deaths from suicide as well as homicide seem to be rising, as compared with their respective averages for the last ten years.

Executions.—39 deaths were registered as due to judicial hanging. In 1919 the same number was registered.

Causes of Deaths on the Estates.

The chief causes of deaths on estates and their rates per million of the estate population at the Census of 1911 were as follows:—Debility (of infants under three months), 4,997; diarrhoea, 4,441; anchylostomiasis, 4,357; dysentery, 4,341; pneumonia, 4,213; infantile convulsions, 2,988; debility (of persons over three months old), 2,962; premature birth and congenital defects, 1,148; influenza, 965; bronchitis, 794; malaria and malarial cachexia, 311; suicide, 95; and homicide, 33.

Causes of Deaths in the Principal Towns.

The deaths in the towns are registered by qualified medical men. The principal causes in 1920 and their rate per million of the urban population were:—Pneumonia, 3,982; convulsions, 2,631; diarrhoea, 2,183; anchylostomiasis, 2,118; debility (of children under one year), 1,884; phthisis, 1,885; dysentery, 1,717; enteritis, 1,557; malaria and malarial cachexia, 1,295; Bright's disease and nephritis, 1,181; enteric fever, 1,031; influenza, 752; bronchitis, 499; puerperal septicæmia, 337; and cancer, 238.

METEOROLOGY.

General Remarks.—There is a marked variation in climate between the different parts of Ceylon. In the low-country, with a mean temperature of the order of 80° F., a noticeable feature is the small range of both temperature and pressure; there is, however, wide divergence between the moist conditions in the south-west of the Island, where the average annual rainfall varies from 100 to 200 inches, and the dry zone areas of the north, north-west, and south-east.

Inland, with altitudes reaching 8,000 feet, the temperature is cooler, and shows a bigger range; there is a corresponding change in vegetation, and the conditions are altogether more akin to those in the temperate zone.

Rainfall.—The highest annual rainfall registered in 1920 was at Watawala railway station, which had a total of 257·98 inches, and 203 days on which rain fell. The lowest annual rainfall was at Hambantota, which had a total of 31·40 inches in 121 days. The stations with highest and lowest average annual rainfall are, respectively, Carney estate with 213·80 inches in 224 days, and Marichchikkaddi with 33·22 inches in 57 days. The longest droughts occurred at Murungan, lasting for 139 days, from June 4 to October 20, and Marichchikkaddi, lasting for 138 days, from May 20 to October 4. The longest wet period occurred at Holmwood estate, lasting for 53 days, June 10 to August 1. The annual rainfall at Colombo (Cinnamon Gardens) was 90·73 inches in 189 days. At Kandy 94·29 inches were registered in 205 days; while the annual rainfall at Nuwara Eliya was 89·47 inches in 229 days. June and November were the two months in which the rainfall was most noticeably above average, but examination of the annual totals shows that this year there is no one phrase that summarizes them all. The areas with more than their average rainfall include roughly the Northern Province, most of the North-Western Province, the western face of the hill country, and the low-country west of it (i.e., parts but not the whole of Western Province, Central Province, and Province of Sabaragamuwa). Galle and Batticaloa were both above their average, but the greater number of stations in the Southern and Eastern Provinces were not, and both the Uva and the North-Central Provinces can show offsets in both directions. Floods caused considerable damage in the Colombo, Alutkuru korale south, and Hewagam division of the Western Province, and also in Jaffna, where very great damage was done at the end of the year.

Temperature.—The stations showing the highest mean shade temperature for the year was Trincomalee with 83·7° F., and the lowest Nuwara Eliya with 59·3° F. The figures for Colombo and Kandy were 80·5° F. and 76·2° F., respectively. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 98·5° F. at Trincomalee on May 12, 1890. The lowest this year was 27·3° F. at Nuwara Eliya (6,000 feet above sea level) on February 23, which is the lowest since 27·1 in 1914 at the same station. The highest shade temperature at Colombo in 1920 was 93·0° F. on March 26. The mean daily range, i.e., the difference between the mean of the maximum and the mean of the minimum, was highest at Nuwara Eliya (18·2° F.), and lowest at Galle (8·2° F.) At Colombo and Kandy it was 11·4° F. and 15·1° F., respectively. The absolute

range for the year, i.e., the difference between the highest and the lowest readings actually recorded at any one station, was greatest at Nuwara Eliya ($50\cdot2^{\circ}$ F.), and lowest at Galle ($20\cdot7^{\circ}$ F.).

In no case did a station's mean temperature for 1920 differ by more than half a degree from its average derived from previous years. April was the month with the biggest deficit below average, and January and February were the two months in which temperature offsets were, on the whole, most uniformly above normal, though the biggest individual deficit also occurred in the latter, viz., Nuwara Eliya $55\cdot4$, or $2\cdot2$ below its average of $57\cdot6$ for that month, a result for which a number of distinctly cold night temperatures were responsible.

IX.—POLICE, CRIME, AND PRISONS.

Strength.—The strength of the Force on December 31, 1920, provided for in the Estimates was :—

Inspector-General ..	1	<i>European Police Force.</i>		
Deputy Inspectors-General ..	2	Inspectors ..	1	
Superintendents ..	10	Sub-Inspectors ..	3	
Assistant Superintendents and Probationers ..	24	Sergeants ..	31	
Inspectors ..	45			
Sub-Inspectors ..	116	Total of all ranks ..	2,922	
Sergeants ..	346			
Constables ..	2,343			

The Force was kept up to strength of sergeants and constables throughout the year, the actual strength on December 31 being only 5 short of the sanctioned (2,689). The total strength of the Force was short by 31 on December 31.

Active Service.—All the remaining officers and men of the Force who had been on active service and survived the war were demobilized and returned to the Force in the course of the year.

Cost.—The cost of the Force was Rs. 2,483,300 approximately.

CRIME.

Crime committed during the Year.—There was a decrease in crime in 1920 as compared with the years 1918 and 1919, as the following statement shows :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.
Homicide ..	170	200	176
Attempted homicide ..	46	41	43
Grievous hurt ..	816	747	770
Hurt with dangerous weapons ..	1,007	955	1,009
Burglary ..	2,301	2,317	2,144
Theft of cattle and prædial produce ..	914	1,325	1,068
Other offences ..	3,074	2,992	2,979
Total ..	8,328	8,577	8,189

It will be seen that offences against the person show a slight increase. The total number of cases of homicide and attempted homicide, grievous hurt, and hurt with dangerous weapons in 1920 numbered 1,998, as compared with 1,943 in 1919. There has been a decrease in offences against property, which

may be classed as preventible crime. Burglary figures show a decrease, 2,144 in 1920 and 2,317 in 1919. Figures under the head "Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce" show a decrease, 1,068 in 1920, as compared with 1,325 in 1919.

Distribution of Crime.—The following table shows the distribution of crime:—

Province.	Homicide.	Attempted Homicide.	Grievous Hurt.	Hurt with Dangerous Weapons.	Burglary.	Theft of Cattle and Prædial Produce.	Other Offences.	Total.
Colombo City ..	11 ..	1 ..	73 ..	89 ..	79 ..	7 ..	446 ..	706
North-Western ..	37 ..	7 ..	99 ..	122 ..	291 ..	162 ..	400 ..	1,118
Southern ..	34 ..	12 ..	150 ..	261 ..	354 ..	265 ..	276 ..	1,352
Sabaragamuwa ..	16 ..	7 ..	63 ..	80 ..	347 ..	106 ..	253 ..	872
Western ..	49 ..	9 ..	248 ..	259 ..	437 ..	332 ..	534 ..	1,868
Uva ..	5 ..	— ..	14 ..	32 ..	115 ..	64 ..	197 ..	427
Northern ..	2 ..	1 ..	43 ..	43 ..	102 ..	40 ..	325 ..	556
Central ..	14 ..	5 ..	60 ..	93 ..	360 ..	72 ..	399 ..	1,003
North-Central ..	2 ..	1 ..	1 ..	6 ..	32 ..	6 ..	59 ..	107
Eastern ..	6 ..	— ..	19 ..	24 ..	27 ..	14 ..	90 ..	180
Total ..	176	43	770	1,009	2,144	1,068	2,979	8,189

Comparing the number of serious offences committed with the population in each Province, it is found that—

	Persons.
In the Colombo City there is 1 case of crime to every ..	307
In the North-Western Province do. ..	388
In the Southern Province do. ..	465
In the Province of Sabaragamuwa do. ..	468
In the Western Province do. ..	476
In the Province of Uva do. ..	507
In the Northern Province do. ..	665
In the Central Province do. ..	670
In the North-Central Province do. ..	806
In the Eastern Province do. ..	1,021

The proportion of serious crime to population in Ceylon is 1 case of serious crime per annum to every 501 persons. The proportion of murders to population in Ceylon is 4.28 per 100,000 population, as against .4 per 100,000 in England and Wales.

There was an increase of crime in the Colombo city, Uva, Northern, and North-Central Provinces. (Colombo city 10 per cent., Uva 19 per cent., Northern 3 per cent., and North-Central 26 per cent.) There was a decrease in the North-Western (6 per cent.), Southern (10 per cent.), Sabaragamuwa (7 per cent.), Western (7 per cent.), Central (10 per cent.), and Eastern (12 per cent.).

The most criminal districts of the Island are:—

The Kalutara District.
The Colombo City.
The Chilaw District.
The Panadure District.
The Kurunegala District.

The Kegalla District.
The Galle District.
The Matara District.
The Tangalla District.
The Ratnapura District.

Action taken to deal with Crime.—Steps taken to deal with crime during the year were :—

- (1) The strength of the Force was increased by 1 Sub-Inspector, 10 sergeants, and 33 constables for the investigation of crime.
- (2) Funds were provided for connecting up more police stations with the headquarters of each district by telephone.

The position with regard to the connection of police stations by telephone is now as follows :—

Number of police stations already on the telephone	88
Funds provided for police stations to be connected by telephone during 1920-21	2
Number of police stations requiring telephone connection, for which funds have not been provided	57*
	<hr/> 147

* Excluding Mahara and Depôt.

- (3) Sessions of the Supreme Court were held in districts in which crime is prevalent, such as Ratnapura, Kurunegala, and Badulla.
- (4) Special attention was given to the state of crime in the Kalutara District, in which there is more crime per population than in any other district in the Island.

In 1919 a Punitive Police Force of 1 sergeant and 4 constables was stationed in the most criminal village of Potuwila, in the Paiyagala police station area, and the strength of the Paiyagala, Alutgama, and Matugama police stations was increased to provide for additional patrols. All the nine police stations in the district, except one (Alutgama), have been connected by telephone with the Assistant Superintendent at Kalutara.

The results of two years' work on these lines are striking. In 1918 there were 695 true cases of crime, in 1919 there was a considerable drop to 497 cases, in 1920 a further decrease to 377 true cases. That is to say, in two years there has been a 46 per cent. decrease in serious crime in the Kalutara District.

A gratifying feature of this record is that with the decrease in the number of cases of crime committed there has been a marked improvement in detection. In 1918 convictions were obtained in 30 per cent. of true cases, in 1920 convictions were obtained in 57 per cent. true cases. That is to say, while the volume of crime has decreased by half, the percentage of convictions has been practically doubled.

The most marked decrease is noted under the head "Burglary," which comes under the head of "Preventible Crime." There has been a 66 per cent. drop in burglary, while the percentage of convictions in burglary cases has risen from 12 to 27 per cent.

The improvement is not confined to one station area, but is general throughout the district.

The number of absconders at large has been reduced from 60 to 27. Eighty gaming places were raided, against 29 in 1918.

Provision has been made for additional police stations in the Ratnapura District. With the extension of the railway and opening up of the country bad characters are coming to the district from other parts, and the headmen have not the same control over them as over their own villagers.

It has been arranged for an officer to be sent to Uva to take in hand the increasing crime in this Province. The extension of the railway has attracted bad characters from other districts, causing an increase in crime.

Special attention has been given to the training of all ranks on more skilled and well-thought-out lines, in order to supply the counter thrust to the ingenuity of the professional criminal, who, as he becomes better educated, is more skilled.

The police are being constantly called in to investigate cases of forgery, counterfeiting notes, forgery in connection with the false presentation of stolen money orders. These cases are becoming far more frequent, and it is without doubt consonant with the education of the lower classes; their consequent ability to read and write has opened their minds to the possibilities of forgery.

It has been stated that education is the one remedy for crime. It would appear that without formation of character education alone is of little value. The criminal merely pursues more skilled methods, and may commit forgery instead of open theft.

The problem of connecting crime with criminals involves an intensive study of criminal methods of operation.

Careful examination of the scene, analysis of the class of crime, the method by which it was committed, and the nature of the property removed narrows down the probable offenders to a small group, whose movements can be speedily verified.

The investigation of crime on these lines and its prevention so far as possible by efficient patrolling, by raiding gaming places (which attract bad characters to a district, money is lost, and crime against property committed), and by all ranks keeping on the move as much as possible in each station area has been the subject of special training and action in 1920.

Youthful Offenders.—A Committee appointed by Government to consider the need of a Borstal institution in Ceylon under the presidentship of the Chief Justice has reported in favour of the establishment of such an institution, and a capital site in the country at Urugasmanhandiya has been suggested, where the boys can be employed both in trade and agriculture and gardening. It is hoped that as soon as funds are available this very desirable scheme will be undertaken.

DUTIES RESULTING FROM THE WAR.

Duties of the Police.—In addition to the ordinary work of the police, certain extra duties, initiated shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, have been continued throughout 1920. Of these, the most important are:—

- (1) Enforcement of the regulation that no late enemy subject is permitted to land in the Colony without special permission from Government. This regulation necessitates the searching of all vessels entering the port of Colombo.
- (2) Enforcement of the regulation that no person may embark on any ship in the harbour unless he is in possession of a passport and steamer ticket or holds a special permit from the Chairman, Plague Committee, to do so. This regulation necessitates the Harbour Police checking all persons attempting to board a vessel.
- (3) Examining and stamping on board ship the passports of all steamer passengers who wish to land at Colombo.
- (4) The examination of the passports of all persons leaving the Colony by steamer.
- (5) Registering and supervising all alien commercial travellers and missionaries arriving in the Colony by steamer or from India *via* Talaimannar.
- (6) The general surveillance of all other aliens arriving in the Colony and of all aliens resident in the Colony.
- (7) Correspondence with India, South Africa, and all Eastern Colonies regarding suspicious characters.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE POLICE.

Legislation dealing with the Regulation of Traffic : Motor Vehicles.—The system of control of all motor vehicles by one registering authority (Inspector-General of Police) continues, and the examination of applicants for and the issue of licenses to drive motor vehicles are being carried out by the police. The by-laws introduced in previous years to give effect to this system were added to in the course of the year to provide for the following :—

- (a) The licensing authority nominating any engineer in the employ of Government or a Municipality, a Government motor car driver, or any person possessing the required knowledge, who may be available in his district as an examiner of motor cars for the district.
- (b) Requiring the applicant for the issue of a license for a car to ply for hire to produce a certificate signed by an examiner so appointed that the car for which a license is desired is in every way fit to be hired for the purpose intended.
- (c) A fee being paid by the applicant to the examiner before the examination is made.
- (d) In the case of a motor car found finally and definitely unfit for the purpose intended, information to be conveyed by the local authority to the Registrar of Motors, who will then inform all licensing authorities and examiners of motor cars in case the applicant should try to obtain a certificate or a license to ply for hire in another district.
- (e) It frequently happened that on a narrow thoroughfare on which there was sufficient room for two vehicles proceeding at a reasonable rate of speed to pass, the driver of one car made no attempt to reduce speed and the other driver was forced to pull out on the grass and stop for his own safety. To deal with this, a new by-law was introduced providing that when two motor cars are approaching each other on a narrow thoroughfare, both motor cars shall slow down for the purpose of allowing safe passage.
- (f) A new code of signals in traffic was brought into operation providing a method of signalling, which can be easily performed and understood by drivers of all vehicles. The main difference between the new by-laws and the old is that in the new by-laws there is one common signal for the driver to give other vehicles of his intention to stop, slow down, or turn to the right, viz., the holding out of the right arm or whip. The fact that the right arm is held out is an indication of caution to vehicles behind. A printed note explaining these signals was issued to each applicant for a license to drive a motor vehicle, and was also issued to drivers applying for renewal of license.
- (g) A prosecution in respect of any failure to report change of ownership or change in description of mechanically propelled vehicles or change of the postal addresses of owners may be commenced at any time within six months of the commission of any such breach. Previously the law limited the prosecution to within three months of the date of offence. It was found in practice that this period was too short in cases of failure to report changes of ownership, change of address, &c.

Other Legislation affecting the Police.—Other legislation affecting the police and introduced during the year include :—

- (a) Release of offenders on probation. Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 31 of 1919, gazetted in 1920.

The new chapter XXVI. revises the chapter of the Criminal Procedure Code dealing with the release of offenders on probation. The old chapter permitted a person convicted of an offence punishable with not more than four years' imprisonment only to be released, and did not extend to some of the commonest forms of theft and criminal breach of trust. Further, the old chapter gave no power of supervision over the offender during the probationary period. Both these defects are removed in the new chapter. The new chapter also makes provision for probation officers, i.e., for the appointment of persons who will undertake the responsibility of visiting or receiving the reports of persons under probation, seeing that he observes the conditions of his cognizance, watching over his behaviour and his associations, and generally advising, assisting, and befriending him.

- (b) The Ceylon Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 25 of 1919 (gazetted in 1920), making it penal for any person to possess in the Colony any imitation of an Indian currency note, including cotton, silk, or other woven goods having impressed thereon designs in imitation of Indian currency notes.
- (c) Firearms (Amendment) Ordinance, No. 6 of 1920, relating to the sale of cartridges. By the new law no person may sell cartridges to any other person unless the purchaser produces a gun license authorizing him to possess a gun of the type for which the cartridges are required. In the case of every such sale the vendor is required to enter in a book the name of the purchaser, the character and quantity of the cartridges sold, and the number of the gun license.
- (d) The Proclamation under the Necessaries of War Exportation Ordinance, No. 11 of 1914, relating to the prohibition of explosives other than industrial explosives, ammunition, and firearms being exported from Ceylon to destinations other than British Dominions.
- (e) Ordinance No. 10 of 1920 amending the former Enemy Aliens Ordinance, No. 19 of 1919.

Special legislation to require a showman to make arrangements for the repatriation of an employee paid off from a travelling circus or theatre while in Ceylon has been asked for, as several cases have come to notice in which persons not natives of Ceylon have been paid off and left homeless and destitute.

TRAINING.

General.—Special attention has been given to the training of all men of the Force in the duty of preserving order and in the prevention and investigation of crime.

In addition to the weekly issue to all stations of orders relating to new Ordinances, by-laws, and regulations, in which all ranks are instructed and questioned, notes and hints on incidents and cases which have actually occurred are published for general information and guidance.

Men are also instructed in matters which affect their particular district or branch of work,

Training in the Investigation and Prevention of Crime.—All ranks have been trained to study and get to know criminals, not merely by their name and description, but by the "class" of crime each commits, and the "method" in which he has generally set about it.

It has been proved by records that habitual criminals are very rarely versatile in their crimes. They tend to commit the same crime over and over again; they do not venture upon forms of crime with which they are unfamiliar. Generally speaking, every crime of a certain class is committed by a criminal of corresponding class: Burglary by burglars, pocket picking by pickpockets, bicycle stealing by bicycle thieves, the simple and probable reason being that he is used to one form of crime, and thinks that he is safest in doing what he knows best how to do. The bicycle thief who has been successful in this particular line will not take the risk of picking a man's pocket or of committing a burglary.

Not only is it true that the habitual criminal is a person with a limited horizon, who from habit, expediency, or limited resourcefulness merely practises one form of crime, but it is found that habitual criminals specialize in a particular "method" of committing their crimes. Professional criminals tend to commit their offences in certain characteristically individual methods. The burglar who forces the back window with a jemmy usually confines himself to that method, while another burglar places his faith in keys. Similarly, one house-breaker will always confine his attention to the "downstair" rooms, for he apparently has not the knack of climbing gutter pipes or of moving about upstairs without making a noise. On the other hand, no house-breaker will enter upstairs bedrooms of upstairs bungalows merely because he can climb gutter pipes or has learned the knack of climbing without making a noise, but probably he is not an expert in forcing windows, which in the case of a ground floor would probably be locked.

Again, "modus operandi" can be distinctly traced by the articles stolen, for one man takes trinkets and little articles of silverware, another takes clothes.

In other words, every criminal stamps his individuality on his crime. The successive offences of the same man are recognizable similarly. Almost without exception the habitual criminal leaves behind him some distinct clue, infinitesimal perhaps, which makes him out from all his fellows, so that with trained observation and a rational classification of crimes, made up on right principles, a particular offender may be located within a small class. By comparison and elimination crime is linked with crime, suspect with offender, until finally the case is brought to a point where an arrest can be made. The problem of connecting crime with criminals involves an intensive study of criminal methods of operation.

When a crime is reported to the police, after visiting the spot and making a careful examination and analysis of the class of crime, the method by which it was committed and the nature of the property removed, the constable has no longer to verify the movements of some 600 habitual criminals who reside in the locality. The crime is narrowed down to a class of, say, two to six offenders, whose movements on the day or night in question can be checked, and this small number can be watched for the sale or disposal of property in a way that a large number cannot possibly be.

The investigation of crime on these lines makes every case one of interest, but it requires skilled observation and analysis to arrive at sound deductions, and this can only be brought about by training and experience.

Every effort has been made in the course of the year to carry out training on these lines to bring about an improvement in the detection of crime.

The movement of police by day and night in the streets and villages has a good moral effect, and is the best and soundest method of preventing crime.

Physical Training.—Special attention has been paid to the physical development and training of young constables. A new system of physical training has been introduced, the object of which is to keep a young man physically fit, active, light on his feet, quick-handed, and at the same time, if possible, to keep him quick-witted. By the introduction of games and less formal exercises the interest of the man is sustained, and both mind and body are worked together in a healthy and happy manner.

The good physical effect of the system was illustrated by measurements taken of a squad of young constables before and after a two months' course of the new system. The average increase in chest measurement per man was $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch average increase in height.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Discipline.—Many acts of bravery and prompt action displayed in arresting armed criminals and saving life from drowning were reported during the year.

Imperial Service Medal.—Sergeant H. A. Kelaart of the Harbour Police, Sergeant Cassim Ally of the Criminal Investigation Department, Police Constable Dingiri Banda of Central Province, and Police Constable S. Thamby-muttu of Uva were awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King for long, good, and meritorious service.

First Aid to the Injured.—Every Officer, Inspector, Sub-Inspector, and Sergeant is required to hold a First-aid Certificate, and no constable is promoted to the rank of sergeant until he has obtained such a certificate. A certain number of intelligent constables hold First-aid Certificates; the remainder are trained to act under a Sub-Inspector, Inspector, or Officer, of whom there will always be at least one in every police station in the Island. A sergeant or constable on receiving a service badge after three years' efficient service is awarded a special grant of Rs. 10 per annum, which he continues to draw so long as he remains efficient. On being awarded a medal after fifteen years' efficient service, he is given a grant of Rs. 2·50 per mensem.

A knowledge of first aid is particularly useful to police in criminal districts, where so many cases of serious injuries from personal violence occur at places far distant from a hospital. In the year 1920 there were 176 cases of homicide, 43 cases of attempted homicide, 770 cases of grievous hurt, and 1,009 cases of hurt with dangerous weapons committed in the Colony. In cases brought to police stations of assault and accident, in which bones are fractured and punctured wounds caused, there can be no question but that the cleaning of the wound, stoppage of bleeding, or application of splints before the long journey of anything up to 15 miles in a cart is undertaken must cause great relief to the patient, and prove of value in the subsequent treatment.

At stations on the sea coast all ranks are specially instructed and kept up to the mark in rendering first aid and artificial respiration to persons rescued from drowning.

Institutions of the Force include a Pensioners' Corps, which secures employment for men no longer physically fit for active police duty, and a Boys' Brigade in which sons of police officers are trained from the age of 5 upwards. The object of the Pensioners' Corps is to assist police pensioners to supplement their pension by obtaining posts as watchers, doorkeepers, &c., on retirement, and to assist the public by providing men of a reliable type and long service in Government for posts which require a steady and reliable man.

Pensioners of the Corps not in private employ are called out to assist the police at times of outbreak of plague, cholera, &c., when they are particularly useful in guarding and watching houses and contacts. There are 128 pensioners in the Corps.

The object of the Boys' Brigade is to provide healthy exercise and recreation for the sons of police officers and pensioners, and to educate and train them to become useful men. Between the ages of 5 and 13 the boy is put into uniform, and not only attends school, but is drilled in squad drill, physical exercises, and boxing. Between the ages of 14 and 17 he continues to attend school and parade for half the day, and during the other half he attends a police office as a messenger, working under the eye of an officer, for which he is paid from Rs. 5 a month at the age of 14 to Rs. 10 a month at the age of 17. At 18 he is eligible for enlistment in the Force. There are 55 senior and 290 junior boys in the Brigade.

Fifteen boys of the Brigade were enlisted in the Force during the year, and there are now 55 men in the Force who started in the Brigade, three of whom have already been promoted as sergeants.

Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace have rendered very good service, not only in being available in times of emergency, but in visiting police stations, attending drills, and in supervising musketry. The fact of a resident of standing being in a position to take charge of any station and direct action in the event of a disturbance, fire, serious accident, or any other calamity is of value, not only to the police, but to owners of property, shopkeepers, householders, and the public generally. In a large and scattered district it is not always possible for the Government Agent, Police Magistrate, or Superintendent of Police to get to the scene in time to prevent trouble.

General Steps taken towards the improvement of the Force in 1920.—Two convalescent quarters at Bandarawela for sergeants and constables suffering from chest complaints were completed and are being used.

Dispensaries in large Stations.—With the growth of Colombo and the opening of police stations at considerable distance from the Police Hospital, it was found that in simple cases requiring early treatment men avoided the long walk to hospital, or, if they went to hospital, spent the greater part of the day in getting to the hospital and back, with consequent loss of time and duty. In order to encourage the men to get early treatment and at the same time to prevent the loss of time in walking to and from the Police Hospital for attention in simple cases which can be attended to at the station, Government has sanctioned a scheme whereby small dispensaries with simple remedies have been established at eight police stations at some distance from the hospital, viz., Wellawatta, Colpetty, Cinnamon Gardens, Slave Island, Pettah, Kotahena, Modera, Training School. These dispensaries are visited daily by an Assistant Medical Officer, whose appointment has been specially sanctioned by Government for this purpose. The Assistant Medical Officer sees all cases and treats them at once on the spot.

Funds have been voted for starting work on the new Police Training School at Bambalapitiya and on the barracks for men of the Pettah at the old Royal College site. These buildings have been very much needed for many years for the progress of the Force and proper training of the recruits, and the buildings when completed will be of the greatest value and assistance in the training and efficiency of the Force.

PRISONS.

There was a decrease of 341 in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners of Ceylon during the year 1920, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 410, as against 280 in 1919. The figures are as follows :—

1919 14,770		1920 14,429
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The number of prisoners sentenced to death was 50, as against 55 in 1919. There were 40 executions during the year, as against 38 in 1919. Of the 40 whose capital sentences were carried out, 34 were Sinhalese and 6 Tamils. Of the number executed, 3 had been sentenced in 1919, and of the number sentenced to death, 3 were executed in 1921. Seven convicts were deported to the Andamans for life during the year. There were 5 escapes and 6 recaptures during the year.

The total number of deaths in jail was 213, as against 326 in 1919, and the death-rate per 1,000 of the admissions during the year was 9·30, as against 14·08 in 1919 and 6·50 in 1918. The number of punishments inflicted during the year for prison offences was 2,481, as against 2,067 in 1919 and 1,795 in 1918. There were 47 cases of corporal punishments, as against 35 in 1919.

Prisoners are in all prisons employed upon works of public utility and remunerative industrial labours. At Welikada and Bogambra Jails various trades are taught, such as carpentry, blacksmith and tinsmith work, bootmaking, tailoring, the making of cane furniture, matting, coir brooms, rugs, mats, coal and tea leaf bags, ropes, strings, bamboo tats, laundry work, printing, book-binding, and masons' work.

During the year 1,633 articles of wooden furniture were turned out by prison labour for various Government Departments. Owing to the increased demand for furniture, brooms, mats, tats, door rugs, and other articles, the industrial working parties at Bogambra Jail have been largely increased. Machinery to deal with the large logs of timber supplied by the Forest Department has been indented for from England, and is expected early. The Government Printing Office continues to employ a daily average of 216 prisoners from Welikada Jail. This jail also continues to wash all soiled linen from the Medical and Railway Departments, as well as the Lunatic Asylum, 726,921 pieces being dealt with during the year. 11,603 articles of clothing and bedding were made up for the Colonial Storekeeper, and 21,011½ yards of cloth woven for prison use.

The prisoners at Mahara are exclusively employed in the quarries on account of the Harbour Works and Public Works Departments. 2,339½ cubes of hand rubble, 136½ cubes of 2-inch metal, 44½ cubes pitching stones, 63½ cubes of quarry scrapings were despatched to Colombo Harbour Works, 939·12 cubes 2-inch metal, 35,352 stone setts, 100 cubes pitching stones, 2,312½ cubes hand rubble, and 161½ cubes quarry scrapings were stocked in the quarry, while the Public Works Department were supplied with 5,687·53 cubes of 2-inch metal, 145·50 cubes of hand rubble, and 768 ashlar stones at a total estimated value of Rs. 101,800·63½.

The Karaiyur reclamation at Jaffna continues to make good progress, 6 acres 1 rood and 9 perches were reclaimed during the year, making a total of 5 acres 2 roods and 26 perches reclaimed to date.

Metal continued to be supplied to the Public Works Department from Bogambra, Anuradhapura, Tangalla, Galle, Chilaw, and Badulla prisons. At Anuradhapura a party of 25 prisoners is daily employed by the Forest Department on re-afforestation, 12 prisoners are employed in reclamation works, and 8 prisoners in the rice mills.

During the year a tract of about 10 acres of land adjoining Welikada Jail was planted with vegetables by prison labour, and a sum of Rs. 1,174·28 was credited to revenue by sale of vegetables.

The daily average attendance at the schools opened in August, 1917, was 171·41 during the year.

X.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

On December 31, 1920, 561 offices of various classes were open. Of these, 166 were postal telegraph offices, 30 non-telegraph post offices, and 365 receiving post offices. Two new post offices and 11 receiving offices were opened during the year. Five post offices were converted into post and telegraph offices, and 1 post office and 2 receiving offices were closed during the year.

The total number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post in 1920 is estimated at 49 millions, as against 44 millions in 1919. The increase of 5 millions over that of the previous year was mainly in inland correspondence.

MAIL SERVICES.

A regular weekly mail service was maintained between England and Ceylon *viâ* Marseilles and Bombay, the average time between London and Colombo being twenty-one days. An occasional service by vessels of the Orient Line *viâ* Toulon conveyed the mails in eighteen days.

Fairly frequent service to the Far East was available by vessels of the British India Company, Messageries Maritimes Company, and Japanese lines.

The mails to and from Australia were carried by the P. & O. and Orient line steamers, and the service was more regular than in the previous year.

The British India Company's steamers carried mails between Ceylon and Mauritius, and the Indian and African lines of steamers conveyed mails between Ceylon and South Africa, but at irregular intervals.

PARCELS.

The number of postal parcels dealt with during the year was 796,000, an increase of 61,000 over the total dealt with in 1919.

The exchange of parcels with the United Kingdom on the "Cash on Delivery" System was introduced in April, 1920, and 1,627 parcels were received and 29 despatched by this service.

TELEGRAMS.

The number of inland telegrams transmitted during the year increased, but it was still below that dealt with in 1918. The traffic dropped at the end of 1918 owing to the increase in the charge per telegram from 25 cents to 40 cents, which was then brought into operation, and it had not fully recovered.

The number of telegrams received from India increased, but the number of telegrams despatched to India fell off. The decrease was no doubt due to the depression in trade.

The number of cablegrams despatched to, and received from, all other countries increased, and was the highest on record. This increase is, perhaps, due to the revival of trade relations with foreign countries, and to fluctuations in exchange, which give rise to a number of telegrams.

There was an increase in the number of radio-telegrams (a service which was reduced to a minimum during the war) as compared with the previous year, and a marked increase as compared with the pre-war period.

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL ORDERS.

In comparison with the figures of the previous year, there was an increase of over Rs. 300,000 in the total value of money orders issued in Ceylon on India, United Kingdom, and other countries, making a total of Rs. 9,547,432, and a decrease of Rs. 500,000 in the total amount paid, the latter being Rs. 2,268,228.

The sale of both Ceylon and British postal orders increased, while the number and amount of British postal orders paid in the Colony was less than in 1919. The total issued and paid was £28,902. 3s. 3d.

The rates of conversion for the issue and payment of sterling money orders and British postal orders varied considerably during the year owing to fluctuations in exchange.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

The business of the Bank increased considerably. During the year there were 130,169 deposits amounting to Rs. 3,508,791, and 61,082 withdrawals amounting to Rs. 2,732,443. Ten years ago the corresponding figures were 85,055 deposits amounting to Rs. 1,844,431, and 30,705 withdrawals amounting to Rs. 1,470,452.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

New telegraph circuits were run between—

	Miles.		Miles.
Kandy-Ulapane	.. 16	Colombo-Padukka	.. 22

Inclusive of railway telegraphs, 14 miles of posts and 239 miles of wire were added to the telegraph system, bringing the total up to 2,147 miles of posts and 7,558 miles of wire.

On the telephone system, public call offices were opened at Colpetty, Dehiwala, Katukurunda, Teldeniya, Galagedara, Avissawella, Padukka, Watawala, Baddegama, and Nanu-oya.

A junction line was erected between Kandy and Kondesale connecting the private exchange at Kondesale with the main trunk line system.

A new trunk line was constructed between Colombo and Avissawella.

The following telephone circuits were provided for the use of the Police Department :—Galle-Katukurunda ; Katukurunda-Talpe ; Hatton-Ginigathena.

Two new telephone exchanges were opened during the year, raising the total number of Government exchanges to 24, and the number of subscribers to 2,321. Chiefly owing to want of spare positions in the switchboard at the Colombo exchange, an acute shortage of instruments, and, in some areas, shortage of spare cable loops, a large number of applications received for new telephone connections had again to be held up.

The estimated number of telephone calls dealt with was nearly ten millions.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue in 1920 amounted to Rs. 3,951,802, and the expenditure to Rs. 3,459,390. These figures do not include either invisible revenue in the shape of work done free for other Government Departments, or invisible expenditure in the shape of work done free for the Post Office by other Government Departments (*e.g.*, the Railway) and Post Office charges not debited to the Post Office vote (*e.g.*, Temporary Increases debited to Head 46).

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has increased from Rs. 3,437,862 in 1896 to Rs. 12,775,055 in 1920, the latter figure showing an increase of Rs. 4,010,030 over 1919. The average annual expenditure during the past twenty-five years has been Rs. 6,543,495.

The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 4,099 miles, of which 3,830 miles are cart roads and 269 miles are bridle roads.

Amongst the more important works carried out or in course of construction may be mentioned the following :—

General.—Science Block, University College; additions to the Training College, Colombo; new Government Dairy at Narahenpita; new Royal College; improvements to Technical Schools, Colombo; temporary offices and stores for the Survey Department at headquarters, Colombo; improvements to Government Stores, Fort; additions and improvements to the Government Explosives Magazine, Colombo; conversion of old Land Registry Office, Negombo, into a Post Office; Elementary School in the Technical School grounds, Colombo; improvements to Registrar-General's Office, Colombo; improvements to Queen's House, Colombo; drainage of public buildings, Colombo; quarters for clerks, Experimental Station, Peradeniya; additions to District Court, Kandy; additions and improvements to Government Bungalow, Kandy; improvements to Agricultural School, Peradeniya; additional accommodation, Matale Kachcheri; seed store, &c., at Peradeniya; quarters for Assistant Veterinary Surgeon, Nuwara Eliya; Forest Ranger's quarters, Hatton; Plantation Overseer's quarters, Pattipola; improvements to Nuwara Eliya Post Office; alterations to District Engineer's Office, Pussellawa; improvements to Nawalapitiya town; Clerks' quarters, Hambantota; water collecting tanks, Hambantota District; Government Technical School, Jaffna; Experimental Station at Jaffna; new Customs building at Talaimannar; additions and improvements to the Land Registry, Jaffna; improvements to the court-house, Chavakachcheri; additions to District Engineer's quarters, Batticaloa; new bungalow for District Judge, Chilaw; powder magazine at Chilaw; quarters for conductor and permanent cooly lines at Experimental Station, Anuradhapura; clerks' quarters, Anuradhapura; improvements to District Engineer's quarters, Mihintale; erection of mill, &c., at Anuradhapura, in connection with experimental husking of rice; clerks' quarters, Diyatalawa; Forest Ranger's quarters, Haputale; new Post Office, Moneragala; additions and improvements to Survey Camp, Diyatalawa; improvements to Bandara-wela water supply; quarters for the District Engineer, Pelmadulla; additions and improvements to quarters of Head Clerk, Ratnapura Kachcheri; water supply, Avissawella.

Medical Buildings.—New Lunatic Asylum, Angoda; quarters for apothecary, Watupitiwala; additions and improvements to the De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo; additions to the General Hospital, Colombo; improvements to the Negombo hospital, Mulhalkele hospital, Nawalapitiya hospital, Agradatana hospital, Dimbula hospital, Lindula hospital, and Dolosbage hospital; additions to Deltota hospital; quarters for Medical Officer, Pussellawa hospital; additions and improvements to Nuwara Eliya hospital; hospital for Udugama; medical buildings, Elpitiya; additional accommodation, Galle hospital; improvements to Jaffna hospital; Leper Asylum, Batticaloa; Ridigama hospital; additions

to Dandagamuwa hospital, Kurunegala hospital, Polgahawela dispensary, and Topawewa dispensary; dispensary and apothecary's quarters, Nachchaduwa; dispensary at Madulsima; quarters for second apothecary Moneragala hospital; improvements to Lunugala hospital water supply; additions and improvements, to Karawanella hospital.

Police Buildings.—Additions to police station, Puttalam; quarters for police constables at Bandarawela.

Progress was also made with the Colombo Lake Development project; construction of a quarantine camp at Madampam, South India; Karaiyur reclamation, Jaffna; Digarolla bridge, Moratuwa; Gampola bridge; Blackpool bridge, Nanuoya-Nuwara Eliya road; Tripichang-oya bridge, Kurunegala-Puttalam road; repairs to Dodanduwa and Gintota bridges; reconstructing Badalgama bridge, Negombo-Giriulla road; renewing Pol-oya bridge, Galle District.

IRRIGATION.

The total expenditure of the Irrigation Department for the financial year 1919-20 was Rs. 933,093.

The schemes under construction were Karachchi, Tabbowa, Nachchaduwa (distribution channels), Unnichchai (distribution channels), Pattipola-arū extension, and Kirinda-oya (right bank). Work on Tabbowa scheme, which was closed down in 1915, was resumed in October, 1919. The closure of the bund of Karachchi tank was successfully completed at the end of the year, and the bund withstood without damage a flood which rose to 4 feet above the level of the spill.

Surveys and investigations were made in connection with the following schemes:—Vadamaradchi lagoon, Karachchi, Giant's tank, Nachchaduwa Nuwerawewa, Kanukkeni, Tabbowa, Kalawewa, Minneri, Kantalai, Unnichchai, Hambagamuwa, Mutturajawela, Kirinde-oya (right and left banks), and Walawo (right and left banks). Contour surveys were made of Lahugalla tank bed and of the paddy fields under Kirama, Kalu-oya, and Giant's tank. Gaugings and other observations were taken at Vadamaradchi lagoon, Elephant Pass, Mahaweli-ganga, Virgil-arū, Bolgoda lake, and Polwatte-ganga.

The number of Crown irrigation works is 184, and under these works about 153,000 acres are irrigated for paddy. It has been decided, in order to encourage the cultivation of foodstuffs, that these lands will pay no irrigation rates until 1925 if cultivated for paddy or other foodstuffs. In addition to the Crown works, there are approximately 5,200 village tanks and elas (small channels) in operation with an approximate area of 167,000 acres of land cultivated for paddy. About 1,500 village works are under restoration by the villagers. Approximately 15,000 acres of undeveloped irrigable land suitable for paddy cultivation is available under the existing Crown irrigation works.

SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The operations of the Survey Department for the period under review comprised 40,838 acres of block surveys, 1,440 acres of irrigation surveys, 1,894 acres of forest reserve surveys, and 3,051 acres of town survey.

The number of block survey preliminary plans issued was 27, containing 2,533 lots, covering an area of 23,110 acres. Three irrigation survey plans containing 1,099 lots; covering an area of 6,262 acres, were issued. The number of forest reserve survey plans was 2, covering an area of 81,892 acres.

Two town survey plans containing 111 lots, covering an area of 24 acres, were also issued.

Final village plans to the number of 200 were issued.

The total area now covered by block surveys is 2,282,786 acres, topographical surveys 1,093,380 acres, forest reserve surveys 587,276 acres, irrigation surveys 36,415 acres, and town surveys 11,762 acres, making a total of 4,011,619 acres.

Final Village and Topographical Plans.—245 final village and topographical preliminary plans for 218,058 acres in 6,663 lots were issued to the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents during the year. The total area covered by the final plans in the hands of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents now stands at 1,260,116 acres, contained in 43,938 lots on 2,458 plans.

Preliminary Plans.—1,381 preliminary plans for 15,925 acres in 6,610 lots were forwarded to the Government Agents, Assistant Government Agents, and the Settlement Officer.

Supplementary Surveys in Final Village Plans and existing Preliminary Plans.—406 supplementary surveys consisting of 1,812 lots, covering 5,670 acres, have been made and inserted on final village plans and preliminary plans already issued.

Applications.—521 applications, covering 2,190 acres, were surveyed under Government Circular No. 36 of April 15, 1920, by which the Government allows an applicant for irrigable Crown land, for the cultivation of paddy, to take immediate possession of the land free of rent for a period of three years. After the expiration of this period, the sale or lease of the land to the cultivator is to be considered. In the event of sale, the sale price may be paid, if desired, in yearly instalments over a period of not more than ten years. The object of this is to increase the production of rice in the Island.

Nature of Applications.—1,013 applications, covering 3,816 acres, were surveyed for paddy; 31 applications, covering 1,643 acres, for tea; 208 applications, covering 3,021 acres, for rubber; 24 applications, covering 1,945 acres, for tea and rubber; 287 applications, covering 818 acres, for coconuts; 63 applications, covering 1,439 acres, for rubber and coconuts; 644 applications, covering 2,326 acres, for native cultivation; and 312 applications, covering 466 acres, for building purposes.

Acquisition Surveys.—Many surveys have been carried out for acquisition in connection with important public purposes, such as the Chilaw-Puttalam Railway; Badulla Railway; additional lands for the Bulk Oil Installation at Kolonnawa; Agalawatta-Badureliya road; Matugama-Bellapitiya road; Infectious Diseases Hospital, Colombo; improvements at Dehiwala; widening of the Colombo-Negombo road from the Victoria bridge up to the 4th mile; building offices, bungalows, &c., for the headquarters and research staff of the Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya; war memorial at the Civil Hospital, Galle; Woodend-Algoda road; deviation of the Gampola-Nawalapitiya road; approaches to the proposed new bridge over the Mahaweli-ganga at Gampola; and for improvements of Local and Sanitary Boards.

Acquisition preliminary plans to the number of 193, for 570 acres in 1,308 lots, were forwarded to the Government.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

Open Line.

The length of the line opened for traffic on September 30 remains the same as last year, viz., 728 miles.

The revenue receipts advanced from Rs. 16,901,830 in 1919 to Rs. 17,129,292. This figure does not include Rs. 2,245,164, which represents freight charges on rice and foodstuffs conveyed free, and Rs. 1,747,648 on account work done to other Government Departments.

The number of passengers conveyed was 10,396,004, or an increase of over one and a half millions as compared with the previous year. Season Ticket Traffic taken on a monthly basis and Parcels Traffic have also increased by 18,884 and 108,492, respectively, but there has been a falling off of 47,202 in Foreign Cooly Traffic.

The total tonnage of goods carried shows an increase of 172,108 tons over the preceding year. The principal increases are rubber 7,310 tons, rice 7,961 tons, coconut produce 16,811 tons, tea and rubber packing 6,032 tons, manure 31,613 tons, sundry goods 54,824 tons, and foreign traffic 4,931 tons.

The ordinary expenditure, exclusive of amounts paid on account of temporary increases on salaries, &c., and on account new and minor works chargeable to maintenance, amounted to Rs. 11,786,145, which is in excess of the comparative figures of the previous year by Rs. 2,492,443.

The capital cost of the Railway, including sums expended on additional accommodation and improvements to September 30, was Rs. 144,026,601, of which sum there was outstanding on loan account Rs. 55,328,641.

Railway Construction.

Badulla Extension.—This line is an extension of the Main line beyond Bandarawela. It serves the Badulla, Passara, and Lunugala districts. This line is 21½ miles in length, and the difference in level between the two termini is 1,875 feet. The line traverses rough mountainous country throughout, necessitating very heavy work, with high viaducts and six tunnels. The line between Bandarawela and Ella was opened for traffic on July 1, 1918. The portion of the railway from Ella to Demodera was opened on December 15, 1920, for goods traffic only.

All work remaining is now in hand on the section between Demodera and Badulla. The line Ella to Demodera will be opened for all traffic by the beginning of April, 1921.

Colombo Stations Extensions.—This large scheme, which involved the complete remodelling and rebuilding of the Maradana and Fort stations in Colombo, the deviation and duplication of the main lines across land reclaimed from the lake between Maradana and Slave Island, the construction of new engine sheds at Dematagoda, the erection of new Railway stores, and the complete remodelling and additions of Colombo goods yards and new Kelani Valley goods yards, is now approaching completion. Work during 1920 was confined to the erection of the new arrival platform at the Fort, the remodelling of the existing goods yard near Railway road, and the completion of the reclamation and quay walls round the "lake basin." All these works have been pushed forward as fast as circumstances will allow. All cart areas inside the goods yards are being paved with sett paving, and this work is in hand.

Main Line Duplication.—This work was practically suspended during the war. It consists of duplicating the line from Ragama to Rambukkana, a distance of over 43 miles, new stations on up-to-date lines being provided at Mirigama, Alawwa, and Rambukkana. Work has now re-started, and will be pushed forward quickly when funds are available. The bridge over the Maha-oya at 36 miles 5 chains is about three-fourths completed, and work on the Mirigama tunnel is in hand.

Harbour Rail Extension.—This railway connects the Main line of railway at Urugodawatta with the Harbour line in the vicinity of the Graving Dock, and the connection of the lines in the vicinity of the Wharf station with the Harbour line north of the new Lake and Harbour Canal. It includes the lowering of the premises known as "Uplands" and "Summer Hill" to the level of the top of the Graving Dock. The work has been pushed forward quickly during 1920, and a single line connection has now been established

between the Graving Dock and Urugodawatta. In connection with this line, but included in the Stations Extensions Scheme, is a large goods sorting yard at Urugodawatta. Over-bridges are being erected over the principal thoroughfares, and the construction of a goods station at Urugodawatta and transfer sidings at Blomendahl is in hand.

Kolonnawa Oil Branch.—This connects Urugodawatta with the Oil Dépôt at Kolonnawa, and the work is practically complete.

Puttalam Extension.—This is an extension of the west coast railway north of Chilaw. The length of the line is $33\frac{1}{2}$ miles and the gauge 5 ft. 6 in. Work was started at the end of November, and the clearing of land is nearly completed. Earthworks are in hand, and a portion of the rails and steelwork for the larger superstructures of bridges ordered.

Maho-Batticaloa and Trincomalee Light Railway.—These lines aggregate about 170 miles in length. Over one-third of the total length has been surveyed. Construction on about 20 miles is at present in hand, and the rails are laid for a length of 6 miles. The gauge of these lines is 5 ft. 6 in. and the section of the rails $46\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per yard. These lines will open large tracts of country hitherto undeveloped owing chiefly to the difficulty in access.

Horana-Dehiwala and Agalawatta-Kalutara Lines.—These lines have been surveyed, but no sanction has yet been received for construction.

Projected Railways.—The principal projected railways remaining unsurveyed are (1) the Matara-Hambantota line *via* Tangalla; (2) the Rambukkana-Kegalla line.

COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS.

The drainage works have been carried out under the administration of Government on behalf of the Municipal Council. The necessary funds have been advanced by Government, partly on loan and partly by contribution as a grant in aid.

The scheme provides for a system of sewers and rain-water drains and pumping stations throughout the Municipality, and for the disposal of the sewage by bacterial treatment works upon modern lines.

At the end of 1920, out of a total habitable area of 5,725 acres within the Municipality, about 61 per cent. has been provided with a complete sewerage system, ready to receive house connections; about 28 per cent. has been partially drained by a system of arterial sewers, public latrines, and dépôts for the disposal of night soil into the sewers; and 11 per cent. is devoid of any sewerage system.

Ten pumping stations and 128 miles of sewers have been constructed, including all the main sewers and most of the principal branch sewers.

The public latrines are now being used by over one-third of the whole population of the Municipality daily.

Since 1911, when the scheme was first brought into operation, the annual death-rate has shown an average reduction of about 18 per cent.

XII.—EXCISE.

The Excise Department is governed by Excise Ordinance, No. 8 of 1912, and the amending Ordinance, No. 25 of 1914. A certain amount of new legislation in the form of notifications under and amendments to the Excise Ordinance was introduced in 1920.

The sanctioned strength of the Department in 1920 was : 1 Excise Commissioner ; 1 Deputy Commissioner of Excise (vacant) ; 4 Assistant Commissioners of Excise ; 1 Excise Adviser, whose term of deputation ceased on September 28, 1920 ; 2 Superintendents of Excise ; 13 Assistant Superintendents of Excise, to which number two new appointments were added from October, 1920 : 102 Excise Inspectors and some 229 Excise peons, in addition to a clerical staff.

Owing to the exigencies of the service, the Excise Adviser continued to act as Excise Commissioner, in addition to his own duties, till August 1, when Mr. T. W. Roberts, C.C.S., assumed charge of the Department. Mr. Parsons and Mr. de Saram have been appointed to act as Assistant Commissioners of Excise instead of Officers from the Civil Service.

Departmental examinations continue to be held in February and August of each year.

The regulations affecting the importation, sale, and possession of cocaine continue in force. There have been few cases of breach of these regulations.

Stringent measures are taken to put down the use of the hemp plant (*Cannabis indica* or *sativa*) of ganja and of bhang. The smuggling of ganja from India and the growth and use in Ceylon have received the close attention of this Department. The following prosecutions were the result in 1920 :—

Number of cases decided	..	..	..	176
Number of persons convicted	..	..	..	162
Total fines and forfeitures	..	..	..	Rs. 12,717

Excise offences generally are being strongly repressed. 3,980 cases of offences against Excise law have been detected in 1920, of which number 1,338 cases were disposed of departmentally by the levy of composition fines, totalling Rs. 21,809·50. The prosecutions in courts resulted in fines and forfeitures amounting to Rs. 90,546·75, exclusive of other punishments, such as imprisonment, &c. The corresponding figures for 1919 were 4,382 (1,592 compounded for Rs. 23,924·80) and Rs. 104,842·69.

Rewards are given for good work as an incentive to keenness. Rewards paid during the year amounted to Rs. 27,985·72.

The sums bid for the various arrack and toddy rents for the financial year 1920-21 as compared with the two preceding years are as follows :—

			Arrack, Ra.	c.		Toddy, Ra.	c.
1920-21	..	..	7,937,130	0*	..	1,952,330	23
1919-20	..	..	7,432,429	0	..	2,008,832	0
1918-19	..	..	7,387,850	0	..	1,877,465	0

* Does not include Jaffna, Mannar, and Mullaittivu rents, which were sold under the contract supply system.

The fees obtained during the financial year 1920-21 from the issue of foreign liquor licenses amounted to Rs. 95,598·51. The revenue derived from this source in 1919-20 was Rs. 90,638·50. The increase may be put down to larger importation, greater consumption, and higher assessment, which is now based more precisely on the amount of gallonage or business done.

Some slight amendments and alterations were made in the general conditions, arrack and toddy rent sale conditions for 1920-21. A separate set of conditions were drawn up governing the arrack taverns under the contract supply system in the Northern Province.

The consumption of arrack and toddy in 1920 as compared with 1919 and 1918 was :—

			Arrack. Gallons consumed.		Toddy. Gallons consumed.
1920	..	..	1,019,370	..	4,752,605
1919	..	..	1,029,269	..	4,570,395
1918	..	..	1,015,386	..	4,736,016

There is a slight decrease in the consumption of arrack in 1920 as compared with the year 1919. This was due to the depression in the rubber and tea industries and to the high prices of foodstuffs.

135 private distilleries were licensed in the year 1920–21, as against 138 licensed in 1919–20. The number of stills that worked in 1920 were 196 as compared with 173 in 1919.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Excise Commission (*vide* Sessional Paper IX. of 1917) certain rules have been passed in order to place the toddy-arrack distilleries and wholesale warehouses in a condition that will satisfy sanitary, analytical, and Excise requirements. The rules *re* sanitary requirements come into force from January 1, 1921, and those *re* analytical and Excise requirements as from January 1, 1924.

There were 125 successful prosecutions in 1920, as compared with 128 in 1919, by officers of the Distillery Circle. The fines imposed by courts in these cases amounted to Rs. 8,369·41. There were also 120 offences compounded for Rs. 1,872 in the Distillery Circle.

It was decided to introduce the arrack contract supply system as an experiment into the Northern Province, and tenders were called for twice. No satisfactory tender was received, and Government has, therefore, directly organized supply. All the arrack required for the contract supply area is turned out at the Government Distillery at Kalutara at a cost of just over Rs. 2 per gallon. This is about one-half the rate asked for by the tenderers, and the distilling operations for the year are expected to yield a profit of Rs. 40,000. The arrack is distilled from two bases, viz., toddy and molasses, in the ratio of 3 to 1. Toddy is bought from contractors locally, and molasses is imported from Java. Arrack is issued from the Distillery under bond to the Excise Warehouses at Jaffna, Mannar, and Mankulam, from which tavern renters are bound to draw their supply. Arrack is issued from the warehouses only on production of a Kacheheri receipt in token of pre-payment of cost price, duty, and rent. Under the contract supply system arrack taverns are sold individually, and the person who offers the highest amount as rent for every gallon sold in the tavern becomes the purchaser of the right to sell. The rent bids were very high, their average level being 40 per cent. higher than under the old renting system. In consequence the selling price in Jaffna has been raised by nearly 40 per cent. This has heavily reduced consumption in the Province, but the revenue is likely still to equal or exceed that of the previous year. The new system will be extended to another Province as from October 1, 1921.

Brands of Spirit.—All the brands of spirit which have hitherto been approved by the Excise Commissioner for sale in the Island were revised, embodied in one list, and published in the shape of a notification under the Excise Ordinance in October, 1920.

The prohibition of “off sales” is being continued for the second year in the Jaffna and Chilaw Districts, but with little success. In spite of the prohibition of “off sales,” the arrack consumption in Chilaw District show an increase of about 10,000 gallons over the previous year. The consumption in the Jaffna District has, however, fallen by about 8,000 gallons, but this is due (1) to the high prices of rice and arrack; (2) to the closure of certain taverns.

Most of the other recommendations of the Excise Commission were given effect to in 1918, the principle of local option, however, being restricted to foreign liquor taverns and arrack taverns only. In 1919 this was extended to the other classes of taverns, viz., toddy taverns and places licensed for the sale of beer and porter. The privilege of local option is now being exercised in regard to all classes of taverns.

Instructions have been issued to the Government Agents in terms of the motion recently brought forward at the Legislative Council that local option ballots should be held at the same time and place for the closure of all classes of taverns to be taken together, or of each class of tavern to be taken separately as the application may specify.

The following statement shows the result of local option ballots held in 1920 in respect of arrack taverns, toddy taverns, and foreign liquor taverns. No ballots were held in respect of beer and porter taverns :—

	Arrack Taverns.	Toddy Taverns.	Foreign Liquor Taverns.
Number of ballots held ..	93 ..	41 ..	3
Number where more than 75 per cent. of the tax-paying inhabitants voted for abolition of taverns	22 ..	23 ..	1

Since the privilege of local option was conceded, some 76 arrack taverns, 70 toddy taverns, and 3 foreign liquor taverns in all are to be closed under the local option rules. Since October, 1919, there has not been a single arrack or toddy tavern in the whole of the North-Central Province. These numerous closings have not so far reduced consumption.

Excise Advisory Committees have assisted the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in fixing the number and the sites of taverns. Unofficial Excise Officers have in some places given valuable aid.

The Departmental Staff List was revised and published in 1920 in the form of an ordinary seniority list.

Excise learners are appointed on the results of a competitive examination held by the Director of Education. Exceptions were made in the case of a few returned soldiers, who were admitted without examination into the class. Excise clerks are also admitted in accordance with the rules governing the admission of learners.

April 14, 1921.

C. H. COLLINS,
Third Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1050	Gibraltar	1919-1920
1051	Somaliland	"
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil Seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1087.

B A R B A D O S.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1072.)



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No. 1087.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920-21.

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ north and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ west. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 1,200 to the square mile or nearly two to the acre. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate, to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonise the island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Hometown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Hometown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham

for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government when the Commonwealth was established, though many royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the Colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor.

II. CLIMATE.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is

scarcely conceivable that some are not imported in the Inter-Colonial sailing craft which crowd the "Careenage," or inner basin of the harbour, but the insects do not appear to find suitable breeding-places on shore.

18. The temperature throughout the year varies, as a rule, from 74° to 84° Fahr.

19. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds and, between November and May, the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° Fahr.

20. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

21. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, and have done great damage.

22. The "hurricane months" are July to October.

23. On the 21st August, 1918, there was what is locally termed a "blow," which fortunately lasted only a few minutes. In those few minutes, however, damage to the extent of some £6,000 to £7,000 was done, mostly to the somewhat unsubstantial houses of the poorer classes.

24. The year covered by this report was remarkable, so far as weather only is concerned, as a year of extreme drought.

25. Meteorological records for 1920 show that the average maximum temperature was 85·0° Fahr. The highest temperature for the year being 89·3° Fahr. recorded on the 31st October, and the lowest 65·4° Fahr. on the 12th February.

26. The rainfall for the year was 42·55 inches, that is to say, 8·75 inches less than the rainfall for 1919 and 21·18 inches below the average for the past five years.

III. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

27. This report is entitled "Report for 1920-21," but it may be of assistance to explain here that, as regards Government Finance, the period covered is from the 1st of April, 1920, to the 31st of March, 1921.

The figures dealing with trade, meteorological returns, vital statistics, etc., are figures for the Calendar year 1920.

In matters affecting agriculture, however, it is not practicable to confine the report to the limits of either of the above-mentioned periods. The "plant-canes" reaped in 1920 were planted in November or December, 1918, while the ratoons reaped in

1920 are from plants last cut down in 1919, and it is therefore necessary to go back 15 to 12 months to trace the history of their growth. The incidence of the agricultural season also explains the reason why the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank should close its accounts on the 31st of May in each year, when the harvest is approaching completion.

28. In an island which is mainly, if not wholly, dependent for its prosperity upon agriculture a year of drought such as that felt in 1920 is little short of a calamity, and the crop of sugar-cane reaped in 1921 will be found to be extremely light when the harvest is complete.

29. Practically the whole of Barbados with the exception of about 46 acres of primeval forest on the lands of Turners Hall Plantation, is under cultivation.

30. The main crop is sugar-cane. Cotton also is grown. Vegetables, such as sweet potatoes, yams, eddoes, &c., cultivated as change crops, provide an important item in the food of a crowded population, and grass has a high value as fodder for the cattle, though all attempts hitherto made to preserve green food for the dry season by means of silos have proved failures.

31. The sugar crop regarding which details are given in this report is the crop reaped between February and June, 1920.

32. It was noticed in the last Annual General Report that the rainfall in 1919 was 9.11 inches under the average.

33. This shortage of rain in 1919 naturally affected the crop of 1920, which amounted to 48,212 tons of sugar, or 21,416 tons less than the crop of 1919. This falling-off is solely attributable to drought, especially in September, October, and November of 1919, the most important months for growth of sugar cane.

34. The price to be obtained for sugar and molasses during the year 1920 varied to an unprecedented extent.

35. At the beginning of the year covered by this report (in January, 1920) sugar was selling at about \$10.00 per 100 lb., and fancy molasses about 80 cents per gallon.

36. By early May the price had risen to \$20.00 per 100 lb. for sugar and \$1.20 per gallon for fancy molasses.

37. In August the market broke and on the 31st of March, 1921, the price of sugar was about \$5.00 to \$5.50 per 100 lb. and fancy molasses 35 cents per gallon.

38. In the circumstances 1920 was a year of speculation in Barbados and large sums of money were made and lost.

39. To give an example, the Colonial Government, fearing a shortage of sugar for local consumption retained in January, 1920,

approximately 5,000 tons for Barbados. The price paid was \$10.00 per 100 lb., which enabled it to be retailed at 12 cents (6d.) per lb.

40. This proved a great benefit to the people, who would otherwise have had to pay as much as a shilling a pound for sugar while the high prices ruled, but when the market broke the Government naturally had to reduce the retail price in order to get rid of the sugar, and by selling below cost price lost £58,000 odd on the transaction.

41. A fair portion of the crop to be reaped in 1920 had been sold in advance by planters between September and December, 1919, at prices varying from \$7.25 to \$9.50 per 100 lb., and at the time of delivery was worth approximately twice as much. Local buyers, however, held on in many instances for bigger profits, and at the beginning of 1921 were left with some 8,000 tons of sugar and 6,000 to 7,000 puncheons of molasses on their hands.

42. The inflated price of sugar gave rise to a certain amount of speculation in land, and estates changed hands at prices which make it appear that their purchasers must have calculated upon selling their sugar at about \$10 for the next five years or so.

43. Twenty-four estates comprising 6,766 acres in all were sold in 1920 for £990,650, or an average of £146 per acre.

44. Owing to the large area planted in sugar canes, as proving the most remunerative crop, it was considered necessary, in order that enough home grown vegetables might be produced, to re-enact the Vegetable Produce Act in 1920.

This Act compels owners of three acres and upwards of arable land to devote a certain proportion to the cultivation of vegetables. Owing to the prolonged drought, however, the vegetable crop failed altogether on many estates and gave far below the average yield on others.

45. The cost of living reached the highest point touched since 1914, during the month of August, 1920.

46. In that month the retail prices of twenty-five commodities in common household use, comprising cereals, salt meat, salt fish, edible oils and fats, milk, vegetables (locally produced), fuel, kerosine oil, matches, soap, tobacco and rum stood at an average of 220 per cent. higher than the retail prices prevailing in August, 1914.

Had articles of clothing been taken into account the percentage of increase would have been greater.

47. Since August there has been a marked decline, but with the main industry of the Island in its present state of depression and the consequent need for economy in working expenses all round the fall in prices will have to be much greater still before it is very generally felt.

48. As has been explained in previous reports there is no system of Government emigration. Agents recruiting labour for countries not under British rule have to enter into a contract with the labourers so recruited. The contract regulates the hours of work, rates of pay, accommodation, &c., to be provided, and stipulates for the repatriation of the labourer (if so demanded) at the expiry of the contract which must be approved by the Colonial Government.

49. Under this system a considerable number of Barbadian workmen were sent to Cuba in 1920, and probably as many more went there voluntarily without contract, paying their own passages.

50. The total number of departures during the year was 15,846, and of arrivals 13,168.

51. The large majority of the arrivals are Barbadians returning home. There is nothing to restrict the immigration of strangers (except the Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act) beyond the fact that there is little or no room for them in the Island.

52. The financial year opened on the 1st April, 1920, with a balance of £77,960 to the credit of general revenue.

53. The revenue to be collected during the year was estimated at £249,500 while the year's expenditure was estimated at £359,135.

54. The actual revenue collected during the year was £454,286 and the actual expenditure was £508,391.

55. A local loan of £40,000 was raised during the year by the issue of Government debentures bearing interest 5 per cent.—not a strikingly attractive form of investment in 1920 perhaps, but application was made for nearly three times the amount required to be raised.

56. This £40,000 was earmarked for certain specific purposes, the erection of a lighthouse at the north end of the Island, the extension of the Police Barracks, the purchase of a building in Bridgetown known as the Commercial Hall, the provision of better facilities for the supply of water to shipping in the Port and the purchase of a motor launch for the use of the Harbour Police.

57. The £40,000 so raised is included in the figures given in paragraph 54 above both as actual revenue and actual expenditure. By the provisions of the Act under which the loan was raised the proceeds have to be paid to general revenue, but the money had to be withdrawn again from the Treasury and placed to the credit of a special account at the Bank to be utilised for the special purposes mentioned.

58. The actual revenue figures were further swelled by the refund to the Treasury from this special account of some £30,000

advanced therefrom before the raising of the loan for the specific works which it was intended to cover.

59. The balance of the excess of actual over estimated revenue was mainly due to extraordinary receipts from import duties and excise in a quite abnormal year, amounting to nearly £75,000 and £15,000 respectively ; to unforeseen Post Office revenue of nearly £15,000 mainly accounted for by profits on the sale of drafts from the United States of America and Canada to settle Money Order transactions, to £11,000 odd of extra receipts under the Stamp Duty Act and to some £7,000 of additional revenue made by the Railway on the raising of charges for freight.

60. The excess of actual over estimated expenditure was mainly due to the increased cost of labour, material, and provisions for Government institutions and to the loss of £58,000 odd on the sugar transaction mentioned in paragraphs 39 and 40 above.

61. The year closed on the 31st of March, 1921, after this sugar transaction had been adjusted, with a debtor balance of £3,770 16s. 10d.

62. No fresh taxation was imposed during the year, though the majority of members returned to the House of Assembly at the general election in November, 1920, gave a pledge to their constituents that they would vote for an income tax.

63. The Colony sent delegates to the Canada-West Indies Trade Conference which was held in Ottawa in June, 1920, and the report of the delegates was laid before the Legislature on the 4th August.

64. The draft agreement under which Barbados would give a 50 per cent. preference to Canada and the British Empire generally and subsidise a Canadian Steamship service has been ratified by the Legislature and came into effect on the 1st July, 1921.

65. The vital statistics show the estimated population on the 31st December, 1920, to have been 198,336 ; the birth-rate for the year 29·68, the death rate 26·44, and the infantile mortality 270 per 1,000 births.

66. Public health throughout 1920 was generally good except for the prevalence of typhoid fever in four districts including Bridgetown and the Parish of St. Michael. The Vestries of the several parishes levy rates for the upkeep of Parochial institutions, repair of highways, poor relief and sanitary measures and, while every other parish in the Island has its own isolation hospital, the local sanitary authority had up to the close of the year failed to provide such an institution for the chief town and surrounding districts. The number of cases of typhoid treated in the General Hospital in Bridgetown was 165 and the deaths were 55. The Government pipe-borne water throughout the Island continued to be reported on as chemically and bacteriologically pure and the

increasing prevalence of typhoid fever was held to be the result of direct infection from person to person by contact and of indirect infection by flies.

The local sanitary authority for St. Michael's Parish engaged the services of a sanitary engineer to examine a proposal to lay down a modern system of sewerage in Bridgetown and his report is awaited.

67. To sum up, 1920 was probably the most prosperous year ever known in Barbados. The value of the exports from the Colony (*see* paragraph 81) was over 1½ millions sterling more than ever before. The Colony was able to import (*see* paragraph 72) over 1¼ million pounds worth more than in any previous year.

The number of depositors in the Government Savings Bank (*see* paragraph 101) increased by 3¼ per cent. and the value of their deposits by over 126 per cent.

Against the above one must notice the loss which exporters will have to face on the quantity of 1920 sugar and molasses carried over unsold into 1921, and the loss to the importers on selling at 1921 prices goods imported in 1920.

The prosperity of the Colony is not reflected in the figures showing the condition of Government Finance (*see* paragraph 70). The year opened with a credit balance of £77,960 and closed with a debtor balance of £3,770 and in view of the abnormal drought and the state of the market for the main product of the Island the outlook for 1921-22 is by no means reassuring.

IV. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

68. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years are as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1916-17	311,303	242,605
1917-18	399,969	456,303
1918-19	347,497	347,817
1919-20	420,136	351,851
1920-21	454,286	508,391

69. The public debt on the 31st March, 1921, was £567,150, and the Sinking Fund to redeem it £194,942 19s. 2d.

There were no important changes in Taxation during 1920-21.

70. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1921.

<i>Assets.</i>			
	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of general Revenue at 31st March, 1921	32,188	4	8
Uncollected Police Tax	249	19	11
Uncollected Water Rates	5,078	9	6
Excess of Liabilities over Assets	3,770	16	10
	<u>£41,287</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Accounts unpaid at 31st March, 1921 ..	1,463	18	1½
Vouchers in Audit Office on 31st March, 1921.	378	14	8
Liabilities on votes to be paid in 1921-22	30,911	15	2½
Excess on Resolutions to be paid in 1921-22.	199	16	3
Temporary Loan from Savings Bank ..	8,333	6	8
	<u>£41,287 10 11</u>		

V. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

(a) IMPORTS.

71. The following table shows the value of imports from the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere for the past five years.

	From U.K.	From other parts of the British Empire.	From elsewhere	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1916	596,920	577,828	676,054	1,851,054
1917	617,503	710,653	957,122	2,285,278
1918	597,571	1,118,248	1,270,187	2,986,006
1919	739,861	1,436,392	1,717,205	3,893,458
1920	1,559,498	1,557,495	2,008,544	5,145,537

72. The total value of the imports in 1920 thus exceeded the figures for 1919 by £1,252,079.

73. The following table shows the sources of import and the percentages from each source for the past three years.

	1920.	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom ..	30·1	19	20
„ Canada	18·3	18·3	16
„ Other parts of British Empire.	12·4	18·4	21·5
„ United States of America	35·8	40	35
„ Other Countries ..	3·4	4·3	7·5
	100	100	100

74. This shows an appreciable recovery of trade with the Colony by the United Kingdom. Canada's position remains about the same and there is a slight falling off on the part of the United States.

75. As noticed last year, it is principally in boots, shoes, paper, motor cars and machinery that the United States is doing a trade with the Island which might be done with the United Kingdom.

76. The decline in imports from other parts of the British Empire is to a great extent due to the fact that no rice came direct from the East during the year. Newfoundland also sent appreciably less fish.

77. The principal foreign countries showing decreases were :—
Brazil, Chili and the Virgin Islands (U.S.A.) ; all in manure, chemical or raw.

78. There was increased importation from :—

Holland, of manure, oleomargarine, gin, wine and paper ; Columbia and the French West Indies, in cotton seed for crushing ; the Argentine, in corn, bran, pollard and mules ; and from Japan, in silk manufactures.

Foodstuffs.

79. *Rice*.—3,529,628 lb. less was imported in 1920 than in 1919. British Guiana sent about the same quantity. The falling off was from India.

In the circumstances the Colony naturally took more :—

Cornmeal.—13,657½ bags for home consumption more than in 1919, and

Flour.—4,045 more bags. Canada sent the greater part of the additional flour.

(b) EXPORTS.

80. The following table shows the value of exports to the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere during the past five years :—

	To United Kingdom.	To other parts of British Empire.	To Elsewhere.	Bunker Coal supplied to vessels.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1916	232,280	1,562,326	207,117	205,534	2,207,257
1917	512,897	1,214,532	211,158	251,527	2,190,114
1918	479,346	1,428,332	315,205	257,763	2,480,646
1919	348,589	2,002,534	405,919	548,290	3,305,382
1920	1,083,420	2,079,424	1,218,042	484,894	4,865,894

81. Thus the total value of the exports for 1920 exceeded that of those for 1919 by £1,560,512.

82. The following table shows the direction of the export trade for the past three years.

	1920.	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
To the United Kingdom ..	29·6	15·5	24
„ Canada	35·5	66·9	52
„ Other parts of the British Empire	8·5	9·9	12·2
„ United States of America ..	15·9	3·9	10·6
„ Other Countries	10·5	3·8	1·2
	100	100	100

83. *Sugar*.—The decrease in the total quantity of sugar shipped is 6,015 tons, but the increase in value is £970,637.

Molasses.—The decrease in the total quantity of molasses shipped is 856,900 gallons and the increase in value £426,927.

Rum.—Less rum was exported than in 1919 by 19,552 gallons, value £13,123.

Cotton (Raw).—The decrease in raw cotton is 92,927 lb., worth £21,383.

Minor Products.

Bread and Biscuits.—310,454 lb., value £6,209, were exported as against 567,281 lb., value £11,818 in 1919.

Manjak.—91 tons, value £2,274, were exported, as against 38 tons, value £646, in 1919.

Fresh Vegetables to the value of only £11 were exported as against £364 worth in 1919.

No *Tamarinds* went out, as against £2,873 worth in 1919.

84. The following table, showing the average prices f.o.b. of the main products of the Island for the past five years, may be of interest :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar per ton ..	20 0 0	20 10 0	20 10 0	28 10 0	63 15 0
Molasses per gal. ..	1 1½	1 1½	1 7½	1 10	3 1
Cotton per lb. ..	1 5	2 2	4 0	4 0	1 5
Rum per gal. ..	1 10	2 1	2 6	8 0	4 6

(c) AGRICULTURE.

85. Practically all the land is devoted to the cultivation of economic crops, sugar and its by-products, cotton, sweet potatoes, yams, Indian corn, eddoes, cassava and various pulses.

86. Owing to the very high price at which sugar and molasses were sold during the past few years there was a comparatively large acreage under canes in 1920.

87. The decrease in the 1920 sugar crop of 21,416 tons below that of the previous year was due to the lessened rainfall in 1919, especially in September, October and November of that year.

88. From the same cause, and the continued droughts throughout 1920, the yields of the various vegetable crops were very far below the average.

89. The following table gives the exports of sugar, equating fancy molasses thereto, for the past five years :—

1916	..	..	..	..	73,581 tons.
1917	..	..	..	..	69,367 ..
1918	..	..	..	..	57,191 ..
1919	..	..	..	..	69,628 ..
1920	..	..	..	..	48,212 ..

90. The high price of sugar reacted on the price of agricultural land which sold at an average of £146 per acre in 1920 or 66 per cent. more than in 1919.

91. The present drought, which is the most severe ever recorded in the Island, leaves no doubt that the 1921 crop must be much lighter than that of 1920, and, as the price of sugar and molasses has fallen considerably, planters with few exceptions will incur a loss on working their estates.

92. The Director of Agriculture reports that the seedling sugar canes, B.H.10 (12), B.a.6032 and B.a.11,569 still continue to give excellent results when compared with the White Transparent and B.6450, the two varieties which have been used for several years for purposes of comparison with the newer seedlings.

93. The following table shows the results obtained with the better varieties as compared with the White Transparent and B.6450 for the crop season of 1920 :—

Name of Cane.	No. of years.	No. of Experiments	Percentage of increase on White Transparent.	B.6450.
B.H.10(12) ..	7	59	61·3	25·4
B.a.6032	6	85	49·2	11·4
B.a.7924	7	50	39·5	7·9
B.a.11,403 ..	6	6	44·7	6·7
B.a.11,569 ..	6	25	53·8	11·5
B.a.12,079 ..	6	10	41·6	11·5
B.S.F.12(48) ..	5	5	29·8	12·6
B.S.F.12(50) ..	5	5	39·6	21·1

94. The Director of Agriculture reports again that, owing to the attacks of the root borer (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*) and the brown hard-back (*Phytalus smithi*), a number of the sugar-cane experiments carried out for the year 1919-20 are practically valueless. This will be realised when it is stated that the lowest number of grubs of these two pests obtained from the manurial plots when the stools were dug out and examined, and the old cane holes dug out two feet square and one foot deep, was at the rate of 3,744, and the highest 9,478, per acre, one plot containing nearly three times as much as the other. In the case of the sugar-cane varietal plots the number varied from 406 to 8,479 per acre. In addition, a number of mature insects of both species were collected on the lands of the Government estates where these experiments were carried out, the total from March 1, 1919, to February 28, 1920, being 310,692.

95. As was pointed out in last year's report, His Excellency the Governor appointed a Commission to enquire into, and to advise what measures should be adopted to control or eradicate these pests. The Commission duly reported, and the report was laid on the table of the House of Assembly on November 19, 1919, and ordered to be printed. It was delivered by the printing contractors on May 25, 1921.

96. The following table gives the comparison of the cotton crops by the crops, that is, from October 1 of one year to September 30 of the next year :—

				Crop of 1918-19.	Crop of 1919-20.	Decrease.
Acres	..	..	..	1,445	1,179	266
Quantity	..	..	..	114,444 lb.	100,610	13,834
Value	..	..	..	£18,318	13,201	5,117

97. From the above it will be seen that owing to a smaller area being under cotton in the year 1919-20 there was a smaller yield and also a smaller total value. This latter was to a great extent due to the fall in the price at which the cotton sold.

98. It was mentioned in last year's report that the Government had sanctioned the planting of twenty acres of the improved exotic cotton so as to furnish seed of a good quality for planting the area it is estimated would be grown during the season 1919-20. As this seed gave an excellent yield of good cotton, where the ravages of the cotton caterpillars were prevented, it proved sufficient for the needs of the cotton-planting community. A similar arrangement was made for the year under review. It may be mentioned that samples of cotton grown in 1919-20 were kindly examined and reported on by Mr. C. M. Wolstenholme, of the firm of Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland, Cotton Brokers,

of Liverpool, and Dr. W. Lawrence Balls, Cotton Expert, of the Fine Cotton Spinners and Doublers Association, Ltd., Manchester, and were on the whole satisfactory.

99. The British Union Oil Company Limited, has actively pursued prospecting operations during the year, and at the time of writing this report (May, 1921) have five trial bores in progress at :—

Mount Poyer, St. Lucy, 713 ft. 15½ in. casing in sandy shale.

Canefield, St. Thomas, 185 ft., conductor piping only in oceanics.

Springfield, St. Joseph, 1,524 ft. 8½ in. casing in oil sand.

Consetts Bay, St. John, 651 ft. 15½ in. casing in shale.

Hopefield, Christ Church, 1,030 ft. 15½ in. casing in oceanics.

VI. BANKS.

100. In addition to the two Banks, the Colonial Bank (paid-up Capital £900,000) and Royal Bank of Canada (paid-up Capital £3,541,666), which have been doing business for several years in Barbados, a third, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, with a paid-up Capital of £3,150,000, opened a branch in Bridgetown during the year.

101. There is a Government Savings Bank, which had, on 31st December, 1920, 13,057 depositors, and deposits amounting to £686,975 10s. 1d.

102. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was formed in 1907, in circumstances and for objects set forth below.

103. In the year 1902 a sum of £250,000 was granted by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the sugar industry of the West Indies and British Guiana, of which total £80,000 was allocated to Barbados. Just about that time the sugar planters were finding it exceedingly difficult to obtain advances from the Colonial Bank to enable them to keep their estates in cultivation, as many of these planters had not been able to repay the loans made to them on the security of their crops, owing to the very low price for which their produce had been selling.

104. The Local Government therefore considered that the best way to utilise the grant of £80,000 was to keep it intact as a reserve fund on which to raise the necessary money for working the plantations, and thereby provide employment for the agricultural labourers of the Island.

105. An Act called "The Plantations in Aid Act," 1902, was passed to carry out the above-mentioned object, and this Act proved so beneficial to the planters that it was renewed each year until the year 1906, after which it was decided to rest the original grant of £80,000 with all the accretions of interest that had been

made during the years 1902–06 in a bank to be styled “ The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank,” which Bank was to be conducted by seven persons who would form the board of management, the chairman being the Colonial Secretary for the time being, four members being appointed by the House of Assembly annually, one by the Legislative Council, and one by the Agricultural Society.

106. The amount loaned for the year 1st June, 1920, to 31st May, 1921, was £538,302 17s. 6d., loaned to 154 different owners. The profit for the year amounted to £1,296 15s. 10½d. and is below the average. This is because of the abnormal amount of £462,107 4s. 2d for loans which were outstanding and due to the Bank at 31st May, 1921, since the practice of the Bank has always been to count as income for the year only such interest as has been received during that year, and of taking no account of accrued interest that has not been received.

107. The total funds of the Bank, at 31st May, 1921, amounted to £148,265 0s. 11d.

VII. LEGISLATION.

108. The following Acts, which may be of interest outside the Colony, were passed during the year :—

(1) 1920–2.—An Act to make provision for the Licensing of Foreign Banks doing business in this Island.

(2) 1920–7.—An Act to repeal an Act to prohibit the importation of Bounty-fed Sugar.

(3) 1920–18.—An Act to make better provision for Securing Safety to the Shipping in the Harbours, Bays and other Waters of this Island.

(4) 1920–33.—An Act to authorise the Western Telegraph Company Limited, to establish and maintain a Telegraph Cable to and from the Island of Barbados.

(5) 1920–40.—An Act to authorise the Western Union Telegraph Company Limited to establish and maintain a Telegraph Cable to and from the Island of Barbados.

VIII. EDUCATION.

109. For local convenience the schools of the Colony are divided into three classes :—Elementary, Second-Grade, and First-Grade. The elementary school corresponds in most details to the English schools of this type, and the education given in the first and second-grade schools corresponds to English secondary education.

110. There are no Government schools as this term is understood. There is a central administrative board, but each elementary school is under a local committee consisting of the minister of the district and two laymen appointed annually by the Central

Board. Each first and second-grade school is under the authority of a governing body, constituted in accordance with schemes framed by the Central Board.

111. Education is not compulsory. There are no continuation schools or classes, nor is any provision made for technical or industrial education.

112. At the beginning of 1920 there were 138 elementary schools in operation. At the close of the year this number had been reduced to 136. In addition to these there were three ragged schools which provide the elements of knowledge for very poor children who are unable to attend the ordinary elementary school.

113. During 1920 the number of pupils on the registers, exclusive of the three ragged schools, was 19,275, and the average daily attendance was 11,210. The pressure of economic conditions which was greater in 1920 than in 1919, has caused a further decline in the attendance. With the return of normal conditions there will doubtless be an improvement. The large majority of the children attending these schools belong to the agricultural class, and only a small percentage goes beyond Standard IV. This standard is equivalent to the factory standard recognised in countries in which compulsory education exists.

114. The children who reach the higher standards are sufficiently intelligent to benefit by vocational training and would make excellent material for technical and industrial courses.

115. By means of exhibitions the elementary schools are linked up with the first and second-grade schools, and winners of these exhibitions have eventually won scholarships tenable at English Universities.

116. To a moderate extent, provision is made in the elementary schools for manual instruction.

117. The cost of elementary education during 1920, including the training of teachers and the upkeep of buildings, was £22,768; of this sum £21,743 was provided by the Central Government, and £1,025 by the parochial authorities.

118. The number of second-grade schools was the same as during the past several years: five for boys and one for girls.

119. The curriculum in these schools embraces English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Spanish and commercial subjects. The upper forms are entered for the Cambridge Local Junior and Senior Examinations, and the students acquit themselves very creditably. Pupils who leave these schools find no difficulty in obtaining work in mercantile offices and in banks. Some become teachers, while others secure employment on sugar estates.

120. Cadet Companies and Scout Troops exist in connection with some of these boys' schools, and the training given has produced satisfactory results.

121. The cost of second grade education inclusive of exhibitions, was £1,764 during 1920, and the attendance during the year was 422.

122. The number of first-grade schools was three, two for boys and one for girls.

123. The range of work in the two first-grade schools for boys extends from elementary instruction in the preparatory form to the level of open scholarships at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

124. The fourth form is entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination and the fifth and sixth forms for the Oxford and Cambridge Lower and Higher Certificate Examinations, and the results are, in general, satisfactory. A scholarship, called the "Barbados Scholarship," is annually competed for by boys of these two schools. This scholarship is tenable for four years at any university or college in Europe, Canada or the United States of America. In 1920 this Scholarship was awarded to a Science candidate in accordance with the recommendation of the Examiners appointed by the Cambridge Syndicate.

125. The range of the work in the girls' first-grade school extends from elementary instruction to the level required for the Senior Cambridge Local and the London Universities Examination. Girls are also prepared for the South Kensington and Ablett Drawing Examinations. The progress made by all these schools is satisfactory and they afford a liberal education for the boys and girls of the Colony.

126. Flourishing Cadet Companies exist in connection with the three boys' schools, and girls' guide troops have recently been started in connection with the girls' schools and have achieved remarkable success. This movement is also being extended to the elementary schools.

127. The cost of first-grade education during 1920 was £3,566, and the number of pupils in attendance was 439.

128. University education is also obtainable in the Colony. Codrington College, founded early in the 18th century, is affiliated to the University of Durham. This college receives no financial aid from the Government beyond the four Island Scholarships of £40 each per annum which are tenable there. The number of students in attendance during 1920 was 13.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) EXTERNAL.

129. The contract for a regular fortnightly mail service to and from the United Kingdom which had previously been supplied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was abandoned during the War and has not been resumed since. It is, of course, very desirable that the colony should have regular steamship communication with the United Kingdom.

130. A regular service with Canada is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, the Southern Islands and British Guiana. In October the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, Ltd., started regular fortnightly sailings from Halifax and Montreal, calling at Barbados, Trinidad and Demerara, and returning via same ports.

131. The following steamship lines carried mails during 1920 :
From the United Kingdom, at fairly regular periods, the Harrison Line, sailing from London, Liverpool and Glasgow, and the Leyland Line from Liverpool.

From the United States of America, via the Northern Islands to Barbados, the "Quebec" Steamship Line. These vessels frequently proceed to Trinidad and Demerara, returning to Barbados on their way north. Steamers of the Lamport and Holt, Booth, Lloyd Brasileiro, Norton Lilly, New Orleans and South American, and the Raporel Lines to and from the United States and South American ports, and steamers of the Royal Italian Line "La Veloce" from Mediterranean ports to Colon also called here at irregular periods.

132. The length of passage from the United Kingdom is 15 to 17 days, from Halifax and New York 14 days (via Northern Islands) and 7½ days by direct opportunity.

133. Communication with the other West Indian Islands is also maintained by sailing vessels at irregular intervals.

134. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1920.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
341	1,436,075	976	168,839	1,317	1,604,914

135. As compared with 1919, 343 less steamers entered, but the number of sailing vessels increased by 220. The total decrease was, therefore, 123. Nineteen men-of-war also visited the port during the year.

136. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Barbados, and direct cable communication with St. Vincent, and thence to the other West Indies, America and Europe. The company receives an annual subsidy of £1,500 from Barbados.

The Western Telegraph Company applied for and obtained a licence to land a cable in Barbados. This cable was connected with Brazil on the 20th September, 1920, and opened to general traffic.

137. There is also a small Government Wireless Telegraph Station erected during the War as a War station and utilised since the signing of the Armistice for ship to shore and shore to ship commercial traffic.

(b) INTERNAL.

138. The Barbados Government Railway has 28 miles of line from Bridgetown to St. Andrew.

139. The gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. and £51,785 has been spent on the reconstruction of the line since its purchase by the Government in 1916 to date.

140. The line, however, follows the coast for the greater part of its course, and most of the produce of the Island is consequently conveyed to the port by road and not by rail.

141. There is an elaborate system of roads throughout the Island, 473 miles of roads being suitable to motor vehicles; the wear and tear on the roads is, however, very heavy, and their present condition leaves much to be desired.

142. An American private tramway company maintains a service of mule drawn tramway cars throughout Bridgetown and suburbs.

143. There is no telegraph line in Barbados but telephonic communication is maintained by the Barbados Telephone Company, Ltd., a private company, with 1,402 services and about 2,533 miles of line in use.

144. The Post Office does a considerable and increasing parcels post business with the countries to which Barbadians emigrate,

viz., Canada, the United States of America and Panama. Many persons of the labouring classes have also emigrated to Cuba, but no money order nor parcels post systems exist between Cuba and Barbados. The emigrants in the majority of cases remit their money in American currency by registered letter post or by drafts on the Royal Bank of Canada. The central office is in Bridgetown with ten country offices, five of which transact money order business. Four deliveries of mails are made daily in Bridgetown, and one delivery daily in the rural districts of the Island.

FRANCIS JENKINS,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Barbados.

18th June, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent.. .. .	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland.. .. .	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute.. .. .	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent.. .. .	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate.. .. .	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



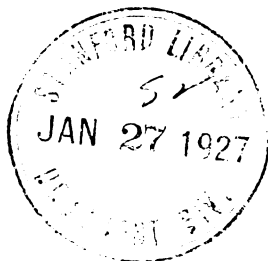
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1088.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918-19 see No. 1038.)



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No. 1088.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1919-1920.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The cost of living is very high, and is felt throughout the Colony. The natives in some of the islands have been refraining from buying European goods as a protest against high prices. It is hoped, however, that this is merely an aftermath of the War and will right itself in time as the supply becomes equal to the demand.

No drought was experienced during the year under review. The yield of copra was normal. The experimental gardens are still being carried on, and the results are satisfactory, shewing that it is possible to grow a number of tropical vegetables and fruit from seed, suckers, and cuttings obtained from Northern Queensland and from the Solomon Islands.

With the close of the War, a marked increase in the output of phosphate has become evident, and there is regular and frequent communication between Australia and Ocean Island.

Dr. O'Conner has been visiting the Ellice Islands during the year to investigate the prevalence and causes of elephantiasis in those Islands. Elephantiasis is unknown in the Gilbert Islands, but is common in the Ellice Islands. His report will be awaited with much interest.

The following table gives the birth and death rate for 1919-1920, as contrasted with similar returns for the past six years :—

	Gilbert Islands.		Ellice Islands.	
	Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.
1913-14 ..	891	734	161	155
1914-15 ..	773	967	—	—
1915-16 ..	817	626	142	100
1916-17 ..	701	628	136	94
*1917-18 ..	554	465	174	95
*1918-19 ..	733	604	—	—
*1919-20 ..	380	225	—	—

* As far as can be ascertained—incomplete.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The total Revenue of the Colony for the year ended 30th June, 1920, was £32,182 7s. 10d., being an increase of £8,112 2s. 4d. over and above the total for the preceding year.

The total Expenditure was £31,348 13s., being an increase of £614 8s. as compared with the year 1918-1919.

The total Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years has been as follows :—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1915-16	23,117	4	11	32,867	15	1
1916-17	24,142	7	1	25,166	1	10
1917-18	26,098	7	2	27,500	19	0
1918-19	24,449	14	7	30,734	5	0
1919-20	32,182	7	10	31,348	13	0

The increase in Revenue is accounted for under the headings of Customs and Native Taxes ; and there is a general increase in Expenditure under most heads.

No additional taxation was introduced during the Financial Year under review.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the years ended
30th June, 1919, and 30th June, 1920 :—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

	Assets.						Liabilities.					
	1919.			1920.			1919.			1920.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash—												
In hand and at bank	1,037	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,151	3	9
In transit	0	0	0	12,900	0	0	1,148	8	6	0	0	0
Deposits	0	0	0	0	0	0	27,116	12	6	24,584	0	10
Advances	43	6	8	4,277	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspense A/c. ..	156	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	15	10
Unallocated Stores Account	100	16	10	36	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loan A/c.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,000	0	0
Investments—												
Fixed Deposits ..	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crown Agents ..	25,429	0	7	25,429	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Banaban Royalties	13,030	17	10	13,030	17	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fakaafu Natives..	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,132	2	9	12,965	17	7
	40,397	3	9	55,773	18	0	40,397	3	9	55,773	18	0

III.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Returns of Imports and Exports are given as accurately as possible in the following statements :—

Return of Imports for 1919–20.

	£	s.	d.
Spirits, Wines, Fermented Liquors ..	2,131	0	0
Perfumery	238	0	0
Benzine	2,335	0	0
Kerosene	4,826	0	0
Oils	3,673	0	0
Explosives	211	0	0
Tobacco	6,745	0	0
Jewellery	77	0	0
Drapery	8,914	0	0
Building Materials	14,244	0	0
Provisions	52,906	0	0
Hardware	20,883	0	0
Miscellaneous	12,605	0	0
	£129,788	0	0

Return of Exports, 1915-16 to 1919-20.

	1915-1916.	1916-1917.	1917-1918.	1918-1919.	1919-1920
Phosphate	128,440 tons	82,845 tons	78,683 tons	105,838 tons
Value	£128,440	£82,845	£78,683	£158,757
Copra	4,795 tons	5,485 tons	5,000 tons (Approx.)	3,431 tons (Approx.)
Value	£54,386	£63,465	£60,000	£54,010
Sharkfins	5 tons 12 cwt	3 tons 1 qr. 27lb.	1 ton 11 cwt 16 lb.	2 tons 15 cwt
Value	£422	£422	£125 (Approx.)	£275
Total Value of Exports for 1919-20 ..					£213,042

(Note.—Phosphate for 1919-20 valued at £1 10s. per ton on Export.)

IV.—LEGISLATION.

The most important Ordinances passed between 30th June, 1919, and 30th June, 1920, are the Gilbert and Ellice Native Lands Ordinance, 1919, making provision for the appointment of a Native Lands Commission, and the Exports and Imports Ordinance, 1920, regulating and controlling the exportation and importation of goods.

V.—EDUCATION

Towards the end of the year Captain F. G. L. Holland was appointed Headmaster of the Educational Scheme of the Colony. It is intended that for the first year he shall stay at Ocean Island and conduct a school composed of Banabans.

As soon as the Colonial School is built at Bairiki, Tarawa, Captain Holland will proceed to Tarawa to take charge of the school, and another master will be appointed to the Banaban School at Ocean Island. Captain Holland is accompanied by Mrs. Holland, who is to be the Matron of the Colonial School. The educational scheme has aroused interest and enthusiasm throughout the Colony, and it is hoped and believed that it will be a great success.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The Wireless Station, which was opened on Ocean island in 1916, has been doing good work throughout the year under review. With the use of amplifiers it has been found possible to communicate direct with Suva instead of via Australia, thus saving the expense incurred by sending messages over foreign lines.

Internal communication between the group and the islands is fair. Messrs. Burns Philp, & Company, Ltd., have two schooners, the "Motau" and the "Merua," stationed at Tarawa. These schooners go round the group fairly regularly. The only other vessel trading regularly is the "St. George," belonging to On Chong & Company, of Sydney, which comes to the group about September every year and stays till March or April, trading. The "St. George" fortunately has a wireless apparatus, and this has been found very useful for the purpose of communication with Ocean Island. The "John Williams," owned by the London Missionary Society, comes to the group twice a year, usually calling at Ocean Island first. This call of the "John Williams" is one of the very few chances of communication between Ocean Island and the group. A Government vessel is badly needed.

The Postal Service is still a most difficult problem, due principally to the scattered nature of the islands of this Colony, and to the shortage of shipping and the absence of a Government vessel.

The chief postal centres are at Ocean Island, Tarawa, Abemama, Beru, and Funafuti.

Ocean Island is the Headquarters of the Colony, whilst Tarawa is the chief distributing centre for the Gilbert, Ellice, and Union Groups. European officials stationed on the islands which are the headquarters of the separate districts act as Postmasters, whilst, at the remaining islands, postal duties are performed, with one exception, by the Native Government island scribes.

The Imperial Postal Order Service has been extended to this Colony, in addition to the existing Money Order Service with the Commonwealth of Australia, through whose agency money can be remitted to various parts of the world.

During the year 95 mails were despatched from Ocean Island, as follows :—21 to Australia, 24 to England, 14 to Japan, 17 Inter-island, 18 to Nauru, and 1 to Tulagi.

T. D. H. BRUCE,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.									
No.	Colony, etc.								Year.
1052	Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1053	Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1054	Uganda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1055	Malta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1058	Ashanti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1059	Bahamas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1061	Seychelles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1062	Mauritius	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1063	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	..	April-December	1919	"
1064	Nigeria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1066	Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1067	Jamaica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1070	British Honduras	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1071	Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1072	Barbados	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1076	Falkland Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1077	Bermuda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1078	Grenada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1079	Uganda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1081	Gibraltar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1085	Basutoland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1087	Barbados	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.					Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	..	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	..	..	..	..	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	..	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	..	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	..	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	..	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1089.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

(Now known as Kenya Colony and Protectorate).

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918-19 see No. 1073.)



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No. 1089.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE* FOR 1919-20.

(Colonial Office Note :—Now known as the Kenya Colony and Protectorate.)

I.—FINANCIAL.

(a) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure sanctioned amounted to £1,752,965. Owing to a decrease in Railway Revenue during the first part of the year, it was considered necessary to recast the Estimates after the second reading and the Appropriation Ordinance, 1919, was not passed until 19th January, 1920. No Supplementary Estimates were prepared.

The total actual expenditure amounted to £2,024,861, exclusive of £190,172 estimated for the King's African Rifles.

For purposes of comparing the total expenditure with the estimate, of £1,752,965, there must be added to the expenditure the sum of £274,698, made up of the £190,172 estimated for the King's African Rifles and £84,526, the unexpended balance of votes on uncompleted works, which is to be carried forward to be expended in the year 1920-1921. £82,900 must be deducted, being the amount of expenditure sanctioned to be met from surplus balances, which is made up of £43,557 expenditure against unexpended balances of votes carried forward from previous years, £33,262 for expenses of Somali, Masai, Elgeyo and Turkana Operations in 1918-19, which was debited too late for inclusion in the accounts of that year, and £6,081 for Acquisition of Land. The resulting figure £2,216,659, is £463,694 in excess of the

*A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 881 [Cd. 8172-7].

estimate. Of this excess £427,885 is accounted for by War Bonus to the staff.

The total Revenue for the year amounted to £1,726,435, including £23,461, the proceeds of sales of farms and town plots, which was earmarked for special purposes and was not available for meeting general expenditure. This was £70,720 more than the estimate and an increase of £177,732 over the Revenue of the previous year, which had been the highest previously recorded. It was, however, £298,425 less than the expenditure.

The following table shows the Expenditure and Revenue for the last six years :—

	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>
	£	£
1914-15	1,151,730	984,756
1915-16	1,072,917	1,165,561
1916-17	1,197,396	1,533,783
1917-18	1,490,571	1,368,329
1918-19	1,570,705	1,548,703
1919-20	2,024,861	1,726,435

Financial Position on March 31st, 1920.—The excess of Assets over Liabilities on 31st March, 1920 was £135,868. This figure is arrived at in the following manner :—

Net Assets on 1st April, 1919	£	434,294
Expenditure 1919-20	£	2,024,861
Revenue 1919-20		1,726,435
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue ..		298,426
		<hr/> £135,868 <hr/>

From this surplus the following amounts must be deducted in order to ascertain the financial position :—

Unexpended balance of votes for works sanctioned but uncompleted	£	84,526
Estimate of Military Expenditure for 1919-20 ..		190,172
Balance of Stand Premia Fund		24,008
		<hr/> £298,706 <hr/>

This leaves a deficit of £162,838. It was estimated when the Estimates for 1919-20 were compiled that the year would close with a balance of £77,996 in hand. The charge for War Bonus, for which no provision was made in the Estimates, covers more than the difference.

All conversions in the accounts between Sterling and Rupee figures have been made at the rate of 1s. 4d. to the Rupee.

(b) CURRENCY

The total value of the Currency Note circulation on the 31st of March, 1920, was Rs. 1,10,88,000, a decrease of Rs. 6, 25,500 from the circulation on the same date of the previous year.

The following new Legislation relating to Currency was passed during the year :

On 7th November, 1919. Proclamation under the Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1915.—The exportation of One Rupee notes of the Government of India was prohibited in order to prevent a shortage of currency, further supplies being unobtainable from India.

On 23rd December, 1919. Proclamation under the Customs Ordinance, 1910.—The importation of gold coins coined at the Royal Mint and its branches, was prohibited, in order to prevent unjustifiable profits on sovereigns, of which the legal tender value in the Protectorate was Rs. 15 each, and which could be obtained outside at a cost of approximately Rs. 8/50.

On 11th February, 1920. The Gold and Silver Currency Ordinance, 1920.—This prohibited the melting down, and using otherwise than as currency, of any gold or silver coin which was current in the Protectorate, or in the United Kingdom, or in any British Possession.

On the same date. The Bank of England and Treasury Currency Notes Ordinance, 1920.—By this measure such notes became legal tender in the Protectorate at the rate of £1 sterling for Rs. 8/50. The object and immediate effect was to keep the sterling exchange rate of the Rupee at 2s. 4d., and to break away from the Indian rate, which had risen to 2s. 7d.

On the 2nd of March, 1920. The East Africa and Uganda Currency Order in Council, 1920, provided for suspension of encashment of Currency notes by Proclamation, confirmed the validity of the Bank of England and Treasury Notes Ordinance, laid down that settlement of debts contracted in terms of Rupees and before the 21st of November, 1919, could be effected with Bank of England and Treasury notes at the rate of one pound for every Rs. 9/25 instead of Rs. 8/50, and that notes of florin denominations should be legal tender.

On the 23rd March, 1920. Proclamation under the East Africa and Uganda Order in Council 1920.—By this the obligation

of the Currency Commissioners to exchange notes for coin under Article 14 (3) of the East Africa Order in Council. 1905 was suspended with a view to husbanding the supply of coin in the Protectorate.

Rate of Exchange.—At the beginning of the year the sterling rate of exchange for the Rupee quoted by the Banks stood at 1s. 6d. The following rises took place during the year: 16th May, 1919—1s. 8d.; 11th August, 1s. 10d.; 17th September, 2s.; 27th November, 2s. 2d.; 12th December, 2s. 3d.; 19th December, 1919, 2s. 4d. At this point the rise was checked by the passing of the Bank of England and Treasury Currency Notes Ordinance 1920 and a reduction to 2s. was effected on March 31st, when the intentions of the East Africa and Uganda Order in Council (No. 2) of 1920 were made known.*

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

(a) TRADE.

Particulars under this head refer to the total trade of the East Africa Protectorate and Uganda, whose Customs Departments are amalgamated.

Gross receipts from imports and exports amounted during the year under review to £338,377, from which should be deducted the sum of £63,338 refunded in respect of goods in transit, re-exported, etc. The net Customs revenue therefore amounted to £275,039, a small increase of £4,477 over the previous year; of this amount two-thirds is credited to Kenya and one-third to Uganda.

The actual receipts from Import and Export duties during the year under report exceeded the Estimate by £24,439.

Imports.

The total value of trade imports during the year decreased from £3,397,810 to £3,119,536, *i.e.*, £278,274 or 8 per cent. This decrease is more apparent than real owing to the increased value of the rupee conversion having been made throughout at the rate of fifteen rupees to the pound sterling.

The following statement shows the principal articles of merchandise imported into the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates during the year ended 31st March, 1920, and the percentage

* This Order provided for the replacement of the Indian rupee as the standard coin by a British East Africa florin, with a fixed sterling value of one-tenth of a pound sterling.

of the United Kingdom in relation to the whole of manufactures and produce :—

Description.	Total value.	Value of imports from the United Kingdom.	Percentage of the United Kingdom's share to the total value.
	£	£	%
Cotton piece goods	747,614	253,414	34
Grain and flour	213,446	893	—
Machinery and parts thereof	149,448	128,160	86
Vehicles and parts thereof	149,024	68,211	46
Provisions	142,591	62,561	44
Spirits, Wines, Ale and Beer	140,813	75,361	54
Sugar	128,375	24	—
Implements, Agricultural	117,555	77,685	66
Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes	111,501	68,920	62
Oil, petroleum	102,979	114	—
Bags and Sacks	92,461	2,577	3
Building materials	74,989	50,455	67
Cutlery and Hardware	43,133	22,144	51
Iron and Steel Manufacture	41,607	26,996	65
Haberdashery and Wearing Apparel	37,107	22,743	61
Stationery and Paper Printing	35,001	24,505	70
Cotton Manufactures, Unenumerated	34,728	21,464	62
Tea	30,349	—	—
Leather and Leather Manufactures	29,231	10,765	37
Silk Manufactures	23,472	1,641	7
Drugs and Medicines	22,893	18,840	82
Oils, fats and grease, other sorts	22,598	8,448	37
Arms and Ammunition	21,263	15,829	74
Animals, living	20,971	2,388	11
Matches	19,658	—	—
Soap	15,666	6,840	44
Porcelain, China and Earthenware	11,807	4,476	38
Salt	10,374	8	—
Implements, other sorts	8,710	6,509	75
Miscellaneous, including Parcel Posts	132,830	75,530	57
All other sorts	387,342	161,165	42
<i>Total</i>	£3,119,536	£1,218,666	39

Cotton piece goods continue to constitute the most important class of imports. They were valued at £747,614 and represent 24 per cent. of the total trade imports.

As compared with the previous year the decrease in value is one of £164,853 or 18 per cent., and in quantity 797,222 yards or 3 per cent. This means an average decline in price of 15 per cent.

Speculation and overstocking of cotton goods have been taking place and a slump in imports must therefore be expected.

Of the various descriptions of cotton textiles, unbleached piece goods to the value of £491,185, or 73 per cent. of the total value, were imported, by far the greatest proportion (£311,085) originating in India. The second largest importer was the United States of America (£111,253), followed by Japan (£38,028), and the United Kingdom (£28,552). Imports of other varieties of cotton fabrics amounted in value to £242,442, showing a decrease of £371,240 or 60 per cent., as compared with the previous year's imports: 92 per cent. of this amount is represented by goods originating in the United Kingdom, which totalled £223,087.

The second largest item of value is grain, which forms only 7 per cent. of the total trade imports. The quantity declined by cwts. 188,921 or 50 per cent. and the value by £173,309 or 45 per cent. This disparity between the two figures shows a rise in price to the extent of 10 per cent.

Rice as usual takes the first place in quantity as well as in value and represents 45 per cent. in quantity and 47 per cent. in value of the total grain imports. The decrease is one of cwts. 129,576 or 60 per cent. in quantity and £120,381 or 55 per cent. in value.

The second place is occupied by "flour and wheat meal," which shows a decrease of cwts. 15,907 or 17 per cent. in quantity and £17,123 or 16 per cent. in value, as against the importations in the past year.

In other varieties of grain there is also a decrease of cwts. 43,438 or 61 per cent. in quantity and £35,805 or 59 per cent. in value, the difference between the two ratios of percentage marking a rise of 5 per cent. in specific value.

Eighty-four per cent. of the total quantity of grain imported during the year came from India. The fall in importation must be attributed to high prices prevailing which compelled natives of Africa who had acquired a taste for imported rice to fall back on local produce.

The third group in order of value is "Machinery and Parts thereof."

The consignments show an increase of £35,404 or 31 per cent. over the past year's imports, and are the highest on record. They are seven times as large as those of 1910. These figures show that development on a large scale is contemplated.

The share of the United Kingdom in the supply was £128,160 or 86 per cent., followed by £13,765 or 9 per cent. from the United States.

The imports of vehicles and parts thereof show an increase of £47,072 over the previous year, the total value being the highest on record.

The share of the United Kingdom amounted to 46 per cent., that of the United States 41 per cent.

Spirituous liquors, including wines and spirits, ale and beer, come sixth* in order of value with a total of 164,523 gallons, valued at £140,813.

The quantity of sugar imported decreased by 21,486 cwt. or 24 per cent.; 36 per cent. of the total quantity came from Java, 25 per cent. from Mauritius, 21 per cent. from Portuguese East Africa and 16 per cent. from the Union of South Africa.

Importations of agricultural implements showed an increase of £34,309 or 41 per cent. over the previous year; 66 per cent. (£77,685) of the total was imported from the United Kingdom and 29 per cent. (£34,261) from the United States of America.

Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes show a decrease of 724,888 lbs. or 52 per cent. of the total quantity and £72,741 or 39 per cent. in value. Cigarettes represent 64 per cent. of the total imports in value and 41 per cent. in quantity. The demand for cheap cigarettes amongst the natives is increasing in a remarkable manner.

The United Kingdom contributed 39·07 per cent. of the total value of imports of private merchandize; British Possessions 36·31 per cent.; the United States of America 9·73 per cent.; Japan 3·01 per cent.; France 1·40 per cent., and Holland 1·37 per cent.

The value of imported goods subsequently re-exported amounted to £757,730, a considerable advance on any previous year. This was mainly due to large quantities of stocks being sent to the Tanganyika Territory. £381,876, or more than half the total, is represented by cotton piecegoods.

Transit traffic increased from £425,583 to £801,180; the latter amount includes £123,827 being produce imported from the hinterland of the conquered territory of German East Africa and the Belgian Congo.

These figures should be considered together with the figures for "re-exports," a very considerable amount of goods being now re-exported from the Protectorate to the Lake Districts of the Tanganyika Territory.

Exports.

Since April 1st, 1917, the exports of produce originating in the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates, have been shown under one heading, exports of produce originating in the conquered

territory of German East Africa,* the Belgian Congo and the Sudan being registered separately.

Produce of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates to the value of £3,006,997 was exported during the year under review as against £2,231,827 in 1918-19, an increase of £775,170 or 35 per cent. From German East Africa produce to the value of £509,937 was exported from this Protectorate, as compared with £231,590 during the previous year.

The relative importance of shipments of produce during the last two years is as follows :—

Cotton heads the list of combined exports from the two Protectorates and represents 47 per cent. of the total exports.

As compared with the previous year, there is an increase of cwts. 35,672 valued at £361,682. The average lowest price was 5½d. in 1916, while the highest average price of 21d. per lb. was reached during the year under review. With the exception of cwts. 645 the produce of East Africa, all cotton originated in Uganda.

Cotton to the value of £947,724 was consigned to the United Kingdom and £412,905 to India and Burmah, as compared with £540,648 and £522,535 respectively in 1918-19.

Shipments of hides and skins take the second place in order of value and represent 16 per cent. of the total.

The large increase of £338,791 or 226 per cent. over the previous year is partly due to the high prices ruling during the year but mainly due to better shipping facilities and cessation of war restrictions on exports.

Seventy-four per cent. of the quantity of hides were shipped to the United Kingdom, 13 per cent. to Italy, and 11 per cent. to France. 46 per cent. of the total shipments of sheep skins went to the United Kingdom and 30 per cent. to the United States, who purchased from us for the first time: 35 per cent. of goat skins were consigned to the United Kingdom, and 59 per cent. to the United States.

Shipments of coffee take the third place in order of value.

The trifling decrease of cwts. 16,942 in the exports is not due to diminished production but to the fact that in the previous year accumulated stocks held, owing to war restrictions, were shipped, thus increasing abnormally the shipments during that year.

The declared value averages 69s. 3d. during the year as against 47s. 4d. in the previous year.

* Now known as the Tanganyika Territory.

Cwts. 107,676 or 88 per cent. of the quantity were consigned to the United Kingdom, and cwts. 6,711 or 6 per cent. to the Union of South Africa and the balance among various countries.

Maize is again figuring prominently in the list of exports. Cwts. 145,554 were exported during the year, valued at £51,491. With better means of local transport, reduced freights, both Railway and Steamer, and reduced costs of handling and shipment at the port, there is a promising future for the export of this product from East Africa.

Of the total quantity, cwts. 102,190 or 30 per cent. were exported to the United Kingdom followed by cwts. 94,666 or 28 per cent. to the British Possessions and cwts. 104,953 or 37 per cent. to Italy and Italian East Africa.

Carbonate of soda has taken the fourth place in order of value.

Cwts. 93,260 or 44 per cent. were exported to Norway and cwts. 87,953 or 41 per cent. to Japan.

Fibre, which includes sisal fibre and flax, represents 4 per cent. of the total exports. The quantities and values exported were, Sisal, cwts. 83,920 (£122,558); Fibre—other sorts, cwts. 2,925 (£4,053); Flax, cwts. 8,155 (£11,577).

As compared with the previous year there is a decrease of cwts. 22,442 or 19 per cent. in quantity and £96,626 or 41 per cent. in value.

All fibre was consigned to the United Kingdom.

Sisal has proved itself as an East African product. It will grow almost anywhere and it is hoped that it will be able to continue to compete successfully with hemp obtained from outside the Empire.

The increasing importance of flax-growing in the East Africa Protectorate is very noticeable. The enhanced value obtained from 1918 to 1920 undoubtedly encouraged development which was carried out on a large scale.

The value of combined exports was distributed in the following proportions among the various countries trading with this Protectorate :—

United Kingdom, 59·2 per cent.; British Possessions, 22·5 per cent.; France, 4·8 per cent.; Italy, 4·2 per cent.; United States of America, 3·9 per cent.; Japan 0·5 per cent.; other foreign countries, 4·9 per cent.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE.

Total trade imports amounted to £3,119,536, a decrease of 8 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Trade exports were valued at £3,563,724, or 43 per cent. above the figures for

1918-19. A balance of trade has thus been obtained in favour of East Africa amounting to £444,188 or more than 12 per cent. The adverse balance of trade during 1918-19 was 26 per cent., and in 1917-18 was 38 per cent.

Fluctuations in the exchange value of the rupee are estimated to have caused a reduction of the value of trade imports by 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. At the same time stocks of produce accumulated during the War, were exported owing to improved shipping facilities and the high prices which could be obtained at the time.

(b) SHIPPING.

There was a satisfactory increase in shipping facilities during the year as compared with the previous twelve months: the tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared in the ports of the Protectorate being 911,018, as compared with 455,916 tons in 1918-19.

A regular service of steamers between Bombay and Durban, calling at Mombasa en route both ways, was maintained by the British India Steam Navigation Company.

Vessels of the Union-Castle Steamship Company, British India Steam Navigation Company and Messageries Maritimes called at irregular intervals to and from Europe, whilst steamers of the Marittima Italiana made 13 calls, and cargo steamers of the Clan-Ellerman-Harrison line 33 calls, at Mombasa.

III.—INDUSTRIES AND MINES.

(a) INDUSTRIES.

From the point of view of agriculture the year has been prosperous owing to favourable seasons and considerable development has taken place: regarded from the stock-owner's point of view the outlook is unpromising owing to the wide-spread ravages of disease.

An interesting feature is the erection of a Natalite factory. The attempt to institute a meat canning factory has so far been unsuccessful, no satisfactory tenders having been received.

Generally there are signs of revival and expansion after the stagnation caused by the War, though whether these will survive the depression consequent upon a lengthy period of hostilities remains to be seen.

No innovation in native industries has occurred during the year under review, but the normal development in agriculture has occurred. Native herds, in particular those of the Masai, have suffered severely from cattle diseases.

(b) MINES AND MINERALS.

Up to 31st March, 1920 there was little active prospecting carried on. The mining rights over the mica area previously worked for the Ministry of Munitions were sold, but the purchaser has been absent from the country, and the mineral has not been further exploited.

The mica mines at Sultan Hamud, which were also worked for the Ministry of Munitions, were closed down.

A discovery of manganese was reported near Takaungu but no developments have taken place.

Graphite has been mined in the locality of the Thwaki River, east of Machakos, and has been reported to exist in quantities which would repay working.

During the year six graphite claims were registered in the Nyeri District, one graphite claim in the Machakos District, and two mineral lime claims were registered at Mile 38 of the Magadi Railway in the Naivasha District.

IV.—AGRICULTURE AND STOCK-RAISING.

GENERAL.

The East African Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed during the year with a view to the control and management of Agricultural Shows and allied activities. The first post-war Agricultural Show was held in October, 1919. In collaboration with this Society the Department of Agriculture started an East African Stud Book. Preliminary steps were taken towards the preparation of an Agricultural Census.

(a) CROPS.

The year was a good one for farming operations, good yields were obtained from the chief crops, and no serious diseases or pests were noticed.

Coffee.—Coffee trees revived after the severe drought of the previous year and the almost entire destruction of the foliage by "thrips." A record yield was obtained and the quality of the crop was remarkably high. The highest price realised was £202 per ton for pea berry. It is estimated that the area under coffee has increased to 22,000 acres of which 13,000 are in the Kyambu District.

Flax.—The flax industry was stimulated by the high prices obtained, and a large amount of capital has been invested in it. A large quantity of the seed sown in 1919 led to unsatisfactory results; many growers suffered loss and the industry thereby received a setback.

Maize.—The shortage caused by the 1917-18 drought was more than made up, and a surplus was available for export. The quality of maize produced on European holdings compares favourably with that produced in other countries.

Wheat.—In some districts wheat of good quality is grown and the efforts of the Agricultural Department and private enterprise have succeeded in producing rust-resisting varieties. The supply from local sources, however, remains insufficient for local consumption.

Sisal.—Companies and individuals who are in a position to operate on an extensive scale are increasing the area planted.

Sugar Cane.—The area planted is extending, and steps have been taken to establish a sugar factory near Kibos.

Coconuts.—The area planted with palms on estates under European ownership is being extended along the coastal belt.

Citrus and other Fruits.—The supply of fruit of different kinds for local consumption has increased, but there is at present no promise of an export trade being established.

(b) STOCK.

Cattle.—The position in respect of stock-breeding cannot be regarded as satisfactory. There is no assured market for a supply of beef cattle beyond the limited needs of local consumption. The dairying industry is progressing but it cannot achieve large proportions until an export trade has been established.

Eighty outbreaks of rinderpest occurred on European holdings. These were, except in a few cases, successfully dealt with by double inoculation and the use of anti-rinderpest serum. This disease is widespread throughout the Native Reserves. 30,102 head of cattle were treated with double inoculation before being permitted to move on to European areas. The average mortality was 2·5 per cent.

Serious outbreaks of pleuro-pneumonia occurred in Native Reserves and spread among European-owned stock.

In three districts which had hitherto been regarded as free of East Coast fever, six outbreaks occurred. Experience has shown that on farms where dipping is carried out efficiently the losses from this disease are not of serious consequence. Progress is being made with the erection by the Government of public dipping tanks along the main stock routes. Twenty-four have been completed or are in the course of erection.

Investigations show that outbreaks of trypanosomiasis in areas where tsetse fly were not to be found were due to mechanical transmission by means of other blood-sucking flies.

A fair estimate of the needs of the country in respect of meat for local consumption is shown by the returns of animals slaughtered in the towns of Nairobi and Mombasa. The figures are as follows :—

	1919-20.		1918-19.	
	Nairobi.	Mom-basa.	Nairobi.	Mom-basa.
Cattle	7,025	3,232	5,567	3,712
Sheep and Goats	23,422	8,335	19,930	11,714
Pigs	493	Nil.	427	Nil.
Camels	Nil.	6	Nil.	36

Equines.—Ninety-five horses and 41 mules were reported to be infected with ulcerative lymphangitis during the year. Treatment with vaccine gave good results in the early stages of the disease but few cures were obtained in cases of old standing. Eighteen cases of epizootic lymphangitis came under observation. More than 40 deaths occurred from horse sickness, mostly in the months of May and June in the Nairobi and Lumbwa Districts.

Pigs.—Three outbreaks of swine fever occurred, two in Naivasha District and one on the Uasin Gishu Plateau. In other respects pig-breeders had a successful year.

Poultry.—Fifteen outbreaks of Kikuyu fowl disease occurred resulting in each case in heavy mortality. Fowls can readily be rendered immune against this disease ; but some time elapses before immunity is produced, and the results of vaccine treatment are not very satisfactory in flocks already infected.

Brands.—One hundred and twenty-five brands were registered during the year. Six were transferred, 50 were cancelled and 252 branding irons were issued.

Research Division.—The Research Division has been engaged chiefly on the production of serum and vaccines. The Veterinary Pathologist has succeeded in elucidating the causes which were responsible for heavy mortality in rinderpest inoculation, and has improved the means available hitherto in respect of pleuropneumonia inoculation by the production of a vaccine from a pure culture virus.

Outbreaks of heartwater and blue tongue in sheep and tuberculosis in cattle from Uganda were also investigated.

235,617 doses of anti-rinderpest serum, 3638 doses of pleuropneumonia vaccine, 18,740 doses of anthrax vaccine, 12,360 doses of blackwater vaccine, and 10,905 doses for Kikuyu fowl disease were produced in addition to other vaccines.

Entomology.—Investigations were made upon outbreaks of trypanosomiasis along the Nzoia and Rongai Rivers and in the Kericho District. Work has also been done on the flax caterpillar. Favourable reports were received from the Imperial Institute upon the cocoons of mulberry silk-worms.

(c) EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

A hostel was erected with the aid of two memorial grants at Kabete. Courses of instruction in agriculture and allied subjects were given for the benefit of new settlers.

The Naivasha Stock Farm has not yet recovered from the severe drought of the previous year. Two sales of stock took place during the year and cattle, sheep, goats and donkeys to the value of £6,896 were sold.

Meteorological.—Observations were made at 180 Rainfall stations and 21 Temperature stations.

The Rainfall for the year 1920 at the following stations was :—

Mombasa	..	..	..	..	55·28	Inches.
Lamu	..	..	..	..	42·03	„
Kismayu	..	..	..	..	9·79	„
Voi	..	..	..	..	19·80	„
Makindu	..	..	..	..	44·78	„
Nairobi	..	..	..	..	47·16	„
Fort Hall	..	..	..	..	46·72	„
Meru	..	..	..	..	44·97	„
Nyeri	..	..	..	..	50·46	„
Rumuruti	..	..	..	..	25·04	„
Nakuru	..	..	..	..	34·23	„
Lumbwa	..	..	..	..	32·71	„
Eldoret	..	..	..	..	43·79	„
Kisumu	..	..	..	..	41·65	„

V.—FORESTS.

During the year the policy was initiated wherever possible of calling for tenders for the exploitation of forest areas. This ensures greater fairness in the disposal of such rights and a larger revenue to the colony from the sale of forest products at proper market rates.

Timber.—The demand for local timber increased largely during the year and several new mills began operations.

The quantity of timber sold including the output of the mills working the forests, the subject of the Grogan licence for the calendar year 1919, amounted to 810,932 c.ft. as compared with 459,944 c.ft. in the previous year.

The quantity of timber issued free to Government Departments, free-timber permit holders and natives increased by

9,000 c.ft. over that issued free the previous year, but the number of poles showed a decrease of 71,000 owing to the cessation of the demand for military purposes.

Twenty-nine free-timber permits were issued, 11 permits lapsed on the expiration of the period for which they were issued, and there were 94 permits in use at the end of the year.

There were 21 saw-mills operating in the Government forests at the end of the year.

Firewood.—The total quantity of firewood sold was 1,233,706 c.ft. an increase of 52,731 c.ft. over the previous year.

The quantity supplied free to Government and Military Departments shows a great reduction from 345,368 c.ft. to 82,481 c.ft. owing to the practical cessation of the military demand. The supply to the Kilindini Base was also discontinued, and the fuel camp at Mwachi was closed.

Railway Fuel.—As the labour supply became more normal and contractors were in a position to maintain the supply of wood fuel to the railway, the Departmental camps were closed, at Escarpment in October, Mau Summit in December and Molo at the end of March.

During the year the total quantity of wood cut by the Department was 942,393 c.ft. of which 760,189 c.ft. were taken over by the railway. The balance had not been taken over at the end of the year.

The total quantity of wood fuel taken over by the railway from all sources during the year was 8,242,145 c.ft. as compared with 5,433,912 c.ft. in 1918-19.

Forest Fires.—During the dry season numerous fires were reported, but in nearly every case, where they occurred in forests in charge of Foresters, were got under control before serious damage was done.

Silviculture.—The policy has been continued of planting as far as possible the more valuable indigenous timbers such as cedar, podocarpus, mueri, muhugu, in preference to exotics. Unfortunately these trees are rather uncertain seed-producers so that it is not possible to raise them every year in anything like sufficient quantities, and the balance of the area to be planted has to be completed with exotics such as eucalypts. With the object of spreading the stock of indigenous plants over as large an area as possible they are being planted with various exotics as nurse trees, but such mixtures are still in the experimental stage as to the best nurse trees and the best method of mixing.

The total area planted during the year was 1,049 acres of which 718 acres were re-afforestation of areas cut out for railway fuel.

SURVEYS.

A detailed survey of the southern part of Tinderet Forest, comprising 117 square miles was made.

A similar detailed plan was made of the Ngong Road Forest.

TROUT ACCLIMATIZATION.

The hatchery remained closed throughout the year but the buildings and all ponds, overflows, etc., were kept in good order.

The trout in the Gura River in the Nyeri Native Reserve below the Forest Boundary have increased largely in numbers.

REVENUE.

The total cash revenue for the year amounted to £15,875 as compared with £11,911 in the preceding year; an increase of £3,964. The revenue derived from the sale of timber shows an increase of £4,579.

EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure for the year amounted to £15,361 as compared with £13,788 for the year before.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) RAILWAYS.

Uganda Railway.—The gross revenue from the Uganda Railway and branches during the year 1919-20 amounted to £592,391 (as against an estimate of £779,000), whilst the expenditure totalled £529,809 (as against an estimate of £572,836), giving a net revenue of £62,582, which is £143,582 less than estimated net revenue.

The drop in receipts is accounted for by the decrease in military traffic owing to the cessation of the War, and the rise in expenditure was due to the increase in cost of materials and stores.

Owing to the increased cost of working the rate of interest on capital outlay, as represented by the net savings, has been dropping steadily during recent years, and for 1919-20 was under one per cent., as compared with over five per cent. a few years ago.

No increase in railway rates has yet been introduced, but a surcharge on all imports carried on the railway produced a sum of Rs. 1, 641,118, which has not been included in railway revenue.

The total tonnage lifted on account of public merchandise decreased from 237,976 tons in 1918-19 to 233,844 tons in 1919-20, but the total ton mileage rose from 53,437,269 to 54,218,334, and the earnings per ton mile from 8·88 to 9·37 cents.

There was a slight decrease in the cost per train and engine mile due to decreased consumption of coal, wood-fuel being more plentiful than in the previous year.

Coaching receipts decreased from Rs. 3,208,135 in 1918-19 to Rs. 2,115,560 in 1919-20, a falling-off of over a million rupees. Goods traffic on the other hand brought in Rs. 5,227,579 as against Rs. 4,922,994 in the previous year, an increase of over 300,000 rupees.

The length of open line including the Thika branch remained the same as in the previous year, viz : 618 miles. The Magadi Railway, 91 miles in length, is also maintained by the Uganda Railway Administration, making a total of 709 miles. The line generally has been kept in good running order.

A shortage of power rendered it difficult to deal with the traffic, but the arrival of 34 new locomotives towards the end of the year, relieved the situation considerably and enabled a daily service throughout the whole line to be instituted.

An increase in the supplies of wood-fuel from 53,512 tons to 69,647 tons enabled a reduction to be made in the consumption of coal, of which 12,869 tons was used as compared with 15,531 tons in the previous year. Experiments were begun in equipping locomotives with an oil-burning installation.

LAKE STEAMERS.

Traffic on Lake Victoria has not yet reached the pre-war volume and has been easily handled by three steamers only of the fleet.

The mileage run amounted to 71,598 as against 62,858 in 1918-19.

Earnings increased from Rs. 882,254 to Rs. 952,315, although there was a considerable drop in the passenger traffic receipts.

(b) POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The East Africa and Uganda Post and Telegraph services comprised 121 Post Offices and Agencies, distributed between the two Protectorates as follows :—

	Post Offices and Agencies.	Money Order Offices.	Telegraph Offices.
East Africa	95	30	88
Uganda	26	11	28

The total Post and Telegraph revenue of the two Protectorates amounted to £92,686, an increase over the previous year of over

23 per cent. The total departmental expenditure for the same period, including the cost of telegraph and telephone construction and maintenance in both Protectorates, was £88,545, showing an increase as compared with 1918-19, of over 29 per cent. A sum of £33,344 expended on War Bonus is not included in the above total of expenditure, but on the other hand the receipts do not include the value of free official services, estimated at £42,419 for the year.

The East Africa Protectorate was responsible for 85 per cent. of the revenue and 80 per cent. of the expenditure of the department, and the Uganda Protectorate for 15 per cent. and 20 per cent. respectively.

Postal Matter.—The number of letters, post-cards, newspapers and book packets dealt with during 1919-20 is estimated at 7,172,959, of which it is computed that 1,539,922 were official and free letters.

The increase in the postal revenue, which amounted to 39 per cent. over that of 1918-19 was mainly due to an increase in postal rates, viz: from 6 cents to 10 cents per half ounce in respect of inland letters and letters addressed to countries included in the Imperial Penny Postage Scheme, and a clearance fee of 50 cents levied on parcels imported through the post and detained by the Post Office for Customs examination.

Parcel Post.—During the year under review 98,569 parcels were dealt with, an increase of 5 per cent. Of this number 73,111 were posted or delivered in East Africa, a decrease of 3½ per cent., and 25,458 in Uganda, an increase of 42 per cent. Parcels from the United Kingdom decreased in number considerably, but the resumption of the Parcel Post service from India in July, 1919, resulted in a large increase in parcels from that country.

Parcels imported from abroad were valued at £189,846, an increase over last year of nearly 11 per cent. The Customs Duty collected by the Post Office amounted to £18,024.

Money Orders.—The value of money orders issued totalled £402,230 as against £320,627 in 1918-1919. This increase was mainly in respect of remittances to India, 17,655 orders amounting to £204,012 having been issued, and is attributed to the fact that for a time the local banks refused to issue drafts on India.

During the year the rate of exchange as between rupee and sterling currency rose from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 9d., and to avoid loss to the East Africa Protectorate and to stop exchange profiteering, the issue of money orders was suspended towards the end of the financial year.

British postal orders to the value of £25,625 were issued and paid during the year, an increase in value of 88 per cent. over the preceding year.

Post Office Savings Bank.—As in the two previous years the amount withdrawn exceeded that deposited. This is attributed to the favourable rate of exchange as between East Africa and countries having sterling currency, which caused heavy withdrawals for the purpose of remitting to the United Kingdom and South Africa.

At the end of the year there were 3,481 active accounts open with a balance due to depositors of £57,748.

Ocean Mail Service.—The uncertainty of steamer movements has resulted in an unsatisfactory overseas mail service. Various routes were tried and that via Bombay was adopted during the earlier part of the year; but advantage was taken later of the fact that vessels sailing from Durban with South African coal for Red Sea ports called at Mombasa on the return journey, to revert to the pre-war arrangement of landing at Aden the mails brought from Europe by the P. & O. vessels.

It is to be hoped that an aerial mail service via the Nile route may prove to be a practical possibility in the not far distant future.

Inland Mail Services.—The resumption of a daily passenger train service on the Uganda Railway permitted of an augmentation of local postal services by the inclusion of a travelling post office on every passenger train between Nairobi and Kisumu. This facilitated the sorting and distribution of correspondence addressed to destinations en route.

Telegraphs.—An interruption of the submarine cable between Mombasa and Zanzibar during the first three months of the year resulted in a considerable decrease in cable traffic, which, however, was more than made up by the increase during the remaining nine months, the result for the whole year being an increase of nearly 11 per cent. over the previous twelve months.

Charges for cablegrams were reduced, first to Rs. 1/70, and later to Rs. 1/40, a word for messages to the United Kingdom and the Continent of Europe.

Government Cable Traffic showed a decrease, due to a reduction in the number of military messages. The same applies, in greater degree, to Government inland telegraph traffic, which showed a very marked diminution.

Paid inland telegrams in the two Protectorates increased from 206,228 in 1918–1919 to 213,802 (East Africa 159,384 and Uganda 54,418) in 1919–1920.

Steps have been taken to increase the supply of trained Native African Telegraphists by establishing telegraph classes at Mission Schools, and the results have proved satisfactory.

Telegraph construction work during the year comprised the erection of a fourth wire from Naivasha to Nakuru, and a fourth wire between Kisumu and Kibigori. A line from Eldoret to Soy was also constructed.

Wireless Telegraphs.—The wireless stations at Mombasa and Kismayu worked satisfactorily throughout the year. Plant for four additional stations is available, but has not yet been erected.

Telephones.—Expansion of public facilities was undertaken in the East Africa Protectorate on a limited scale, 57 additional telephones being installed for private subscribers and 33 for Government Departments.

VII.—PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION.

The influx of new settlers brought an increased demand for native labour which was well met.

Rumuruti, the administrative centre on Laikipia, was reopened after an interval of six years, and a new station was opened in the Trans-Nzoia District.

Registration of natives commenced, 19,204 being registered in the Ukamba Province, 14,803 in Nyanza, and over 6,000 in the Kenya Province. The Turkana District was placed under military control.

VIII.—CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH.

On the whole the year 1919 was more favourable to the health of all classes than the preceding year, 1918, when famine and pestilence wrought much havoc. Though the total number of cases treated in the various hospitals and dispensaries is practically the same, the number of deaths recorded declined by over 60 per cent., as shown below :—

Year		Cases		Deaths
1918	..	122,643	..	2,030
1919	..	122,901	..	1,253

Amongst officials, European and non-European, the daily average on sicklist has declined, but it is to be regretted that the number of invalidings and deaths of European officials increased, the numbers being 38 invalidings and 15 deaths, as against 33 and 10 respectively in 1918. The ravages on health caused by military service, and the heavy strain occasioned by overwork on account of the service being understaffed during the War, can be considered as contributory causes of the increased invaliding and mortality amongst European officials during 1919.

The number of patients treated in the two European Hospitals at Nairobi and Mombasa increased from 396 in 1918, to 500 in 1919. Of this latter number 209 were officials and 291 belonged to the general European population.

Malaria was the principal cause of admission to hospital. The number of deaths of European Hospital patients declined from 33 in 1918 to 24 in 1919; of these latter 8 were officials.

The total number of Europeans, officials and non-officials, medically treated was 3,588, of whom 1,273 were treated as in-patients.

In Native civil hospitals and dispensaries 14,371 in-patients (a decrease of nearly 3,000 compared with the previous year), and 95,574 out-patients were treated. Deaths numbered 1,112, as against 1,706 in 1918.

DISEASES.

Plague.—An outbreak occurred in the Kisumu area in May, 1919, and up to the end of the year 182 cases, of which 159 were fatal, were noted in the Lake Province. A few cases occurred also at Nairobi and Mombasa. The total for the Protectorate was 207 cases with 175 deaths. The total number of prophylactic inoculations was 31,046 as compared with 37,430 in 1918.

Small-Pox.—This disease appeared sporadically in all parts of the Protectorate, and 543 cases with 168 deaths were reported, as compared with 2,576 cases reported in 1918. Of these 543 cases 8 were Europeans, with no deaths.

The total number of vaccinations performed was 263,829 as against 428,079 in 1918.

The Vaccination Ordinance is now operative in practically the whole of the country. Native vaccinators are trained at the Health Office, and then detailed for duty wherever their services may be required. Financial restrictions have precluded the appointment of trained overseers whose services would be of great advantage, as hitherto little opportunity has been afforded of estimating the results of vaccination in out districts and of correcting faulty technique in the operators. Trained Native vaccinators working under proper supervision would exert a beneficial effect in conferring immunity on the general population.

Owing to the same cause (financial restrictions) it has been found impossible to conduct experiments in preparation of a suitable vaccine strain or to estimate the causes that undoubtedly influence the potency and immunity conferring powers of any one strain or groups of strains.

Influenza.—Though the pandemic practically ended in December, 1918, localized outbreaks occurred in 1919; but generally speaking the type was not severe and the death rate was only 47 per 1000. The total number of cases reported was 2,278 with 111 deaths.

Dysentery.—As in previous years the prevalence of this disease calls for comment.

Dysentery of bacillary origin is responsible for by far the larger number of cases.

It is interesting to note that since the cessation of hostilities in this country two years ago bacillary dysentery is steadily declining.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.—The prevalence of this disease is declining, there being a marked diminution in its incidence since the pandemic of 1913.

Enteric.—77 cases with 17 deaths were recognized during the year; of these 35 cases with 7 deaths occurred in Nairobi.

Voluntary inoculation against enteric is not popular in the Colony: only 22 persons submitted themselves for inoculation during the year.

(b) SANITATION.

Sewage Disposal.—No schemes for water-borne disposal are in operation in any of the towns as a general measure; though in Nairobi there is a growing tendency for private individuals to use the septic tank system.

A movement is on foot to dispose of the sewage from the new factory and godown areas in Nairobi by means of a water-borne system and septic tank disposal and subsequent irrigation.

Sewage is in the majority of cases disposed of by dumping in the sea, trenching, incineration, cesspool collection or distribution on the ground.

Water Supply.—The supplies in the principal towns are controlled by Government. During the year it has been impossible to effect any improvement with regard to storage treatment (filtration or chemical) or in protecting gathering grounds or intakes.

Drainage.—No new masonry drains were constructed at Kisumu or Mombasa; in Nairobi 5,771 yards.

Special gangs of workmen are employed at the principal towns whose duties include those of cleaning drains, regrading, and general repairs. The necessity for this becomes more obvious year by year.

Bush Clearing.—This is another activity largely dependent on the Health Office. Grants are made from the Sanitation Funds to Administrative officers in certain centres in order to undertake the work.

Housing.—Areas for native and Asiatic locations are being included in all town-planning schemes, but the development of these locations has not yet been possible for financial reasons.

Inspection of commercial premises is part of the duties of the Health Officers who issue licences prior to occupation. In addition the Sanitary Inspectors are regularly employed in general inspection of all premises in townships.

During the year 4,900 samples of mosquitoes were brought into the Health Office for identification: the percentage of anopheles in relation to the total number of samples was 2.25.

General.—A large amount of work was performed by the Health Department in the way of inspection of slaughter houses, aerated water factories, dairies and milk supply, and food supplies, and in the disinfection of premises, ships and dhows, railway trucks, carts, hides and skins, etc.

Bills of Health were issued to 193 steamers and 787 sailing vessels at the ports of Mombasa, Lamu and Kisumu.

IX.—EDUCATION.

(a) GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

The following Government Schools were in operation during the year :—

	<i>Average Number on Roll.</i>			
<i>European :</i>				
Nairobi " A " School..	180
Nakuru " A " School..	48
Eldoret Central School	58
<i>Indian :</i>				
Nairobi " B " School..	167
Mombasa " B " School	141
<i>Arab and Native :</i>				
Mombasa Arab School	69
Machakos Native School	70

The average number of pupils on the rolls of Government Schools has decreased slightly as compared with the previous year. A large number of pupils were withdrawn from the European School at Nairobi to complete their education in England or South Africa. Lack of accommodation prevented the admission, to any considerable extent, of children under seven years of age to European and Indian Schools, while the majority of children are removed at 14 years of age, either for the purpose of continuing their education elsewhere or of earning wages.*

The general cost of education per pupil has increased very considerably.

The revenue from tuition fees shows an increase over the preceding year, but amounted to less than 5 per cent. of the expenditure, as against 7 per cent. previously.

The average cost per pupil in all schools amounted to over £20 as compared with £14 odd in the Transvaal, South Africa.

The total expenditure, including grants in aid to private and mission schools, was Rs. 293,852.

(b) MISSION AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

The Nairobi High School (European) which had an average attendance of 23 pupils, received a grant in aid of Rs. 3,250. Dutch Schools on the Uasin Gishu Plateau received grants totalling Rs. 4,390.

Twelve African Police Schools, with a total average attendance of 364, received grants amounting in all to Rs. 1,892.

Grants-in-aid totalling Rs. 29,870 were made to Native Technical and Industrial Schools maintained by various Mission societies. At these Mission schools, in addition to general elementary education, pupils are trained in carpentry, masonry, brickmaking, tanning, printing and other trades.

In addition there is a large number of native schools under the ægis of various mission societies all over the Protectorate, the teachers at which are natives educated at Mission centres.

X.—LAND AND SURVEYS.

(a) LAND.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The estimated revenue in respect of rents was £25,000. The amount estimated was £27,157.

The estimated revenue from land sales was £50 in respect of "freehold and homesteads" and £4,200 from "stand premia on farms and plots." The actual sums obtained were £142 and £23,319 respectively.

The total revenue for the year was £50,618 and the total expenditure £9,162 or £940 less than the estimate.

Alienation of Land.—The total number of alienations for 1919 was 118, area 181,502 acres, compared with 89 grants the previous year, totalling 177,435 acres.

Of these 118, 88 represent grants in substitution for licences, agreements, old conveyances of farms and plots, and subdivisinal new leases for which new titles were issued in 1919, so that the actual number of new grants was only 30, representing 64,529 acres.

The total area alienated is now 4,285,235 acres.

Ex-Soldier Settlement Scheme.—An ex-soldier settlement scheme was undertaken during the year. Selection boards were established in London and Nairobi to examine the military record and financial qualifications of applicants. The scheme provided for the alienation of 1,053 farms on a purchase system and of 257 small free farms, covering in all an area of 2,500,000 acres. Alienation was also made to syndicates of four or more qualified applicants. More than 2,200 applications were received and dealt with.

This scheme covered probably the whole of the land available for allotment and as a period of one year has been allowed for the selection of farms by successful applicants no statement of land remaining available can be made.

Revenue.—The total Revenue collected from fees amounted to Rs. 15,025 as against Rs. 31,953/50 in 1918-19.

The decrease in Revenue is accounted for chiefly by a falling off of receipts of certificates and survey fees. Very few certificates were issued pending the application of "The Registration of Titles Ordinance, 1919."

Expenditure.—The expenditure under all headings was Rs. 54,223/04 as against Rs. 55,015/99 the previous year.

(b) SURVEYS.

During the year under review the Trigonometrical and Topographical Branch was separated from the Cadastral Branch of the Survey Department.

The Trigonometrical and Topographical Survey became a separate department.

The Cadastral Branch was attached to a remodelled Land Department as the Land Survey Branch of the Department.

The Trigonometrical and Topographical Survey Department carried out major and minor triangulation in the Voi-Taveta and Teita areas.

XI.—GAME PRESERVATION.

An increasing interest on the part of settlers in game preservation is apparent.

There is no indication of any serious reduction in numbers of game by disease, and no evidence that pleuro-pneumonia, which has caused serious losses amongst cattle, attacks game.

Lions appear to be numerous ; also elephants in the northern area. Rhinoceros have been reduced in numbers probably owing to the high price which their horns command.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The authorized expenditure as sanctioned in the Estimates was £189,041, of which sum a programme of scattered major works accounted for a total of £19,503. These included a Cottage Hospital at Eldoret, additional work on the Veterinary Pathological Dépôt at Kabete, additions to the Lunatic Asylum, additional buildings to the Reformatory at Kabete, further preparation of the site for the new Native Quarter at Nairobi, additional staff quarters at Mombasa, and further work on the distribution system of the Mombasa Water Supply. A new workshop was provided for the Department's African apprentices whose former dépôt had been taken over for military purposes.

On new roads and bridges work was done on 22 different projects at a total expenditure of £18,499. The principal items were a bridge of nine spans and of 297 feet total length on masonry piers and with a concrete deck across the Athi River, a bridge over the Nzoia River (£1,090), a bridge over the Thika River (£1,406), the macadamising of some two miles of the main coast road to the north of Mombasa and of a portion of Corporation Road Mombasa. Work on the maintenance of existing roads cost £42,389. This was a larger grant than in any previous year, and allowed of a distinct measure of improvement being exhibited on many of the roads.

The Mombasa Water Supply was maintained in a satisfactory condition at an expenditure of some £2,142, while the revenue accruing from the sale of water reached the figure of £7,156, a higher total than in any previous year. From this sum payment of interest and sinking fund on the loan for the work was made to the amount of £4,050.

The Transport Department was this year absorbed into the Public Works Department in the form of separate Animal Transport and Mechanical Transport Branches. The fleet of Government cars distributed in various localities, numbered 61. A central garage and workshops were built in Nairobi.

XIII.—POPULATION.

The estimated European population of the East Africa Protectorate on the 31st December, 1919, was 5,914. Of these adult males numbered 2,924, adult females 1,543, and children 1,447. Of the adult males 2,742 were British and 182 of foreign nationalities. They were classified as follows :—

Government Officials	..	..	..	671
Planters and Farmers	..	..	..	1,188
Commercial	..	..	..	833
Missionaries	..	..	..	110
Professional men	..	..	..	91
Various	..	..	..	31
<i>Total</i>	..	..	..	<u>2,924</u>

The total estimated population of the Protectorate was as follows :—

	Dec. 1918	Dec. 1919
Europeans	5,570	5,914
Indians	15,407	16,706
Goans	2,020	2,393
Arabs	7,468	9,567
Other Races	236	237
Natives	2,596,379	2,684,847
<i>Total</i>	<u>2,627,080</u>	<u>2,719,664</u>

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC,

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1053	Gambia	1919
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1090.

SIERRA LEONE.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1065.)



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No. 1090.**SIERRA LEONE.****ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.***

PREFACE.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Sierra Leone, consisting of the Colony and Protectorate, is about the size of Ireland (30,000 square miles) and lies between the 7th and 10th parallels of north latitude and $10^{\circ} 40'$ and $13^{\circ} 21'$ of west longitude. The greatest depth from north to south is rather over 200 miles, and from west to east about 180 miles.

The Colony proper as at present constituted comprises the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Bonthe Island and a number of small islands, of which the most important is York Island, as it is a port of call for ocean-going steamers.

The Sierra Leone Peninsula was doubtless well known to the earliest navigators, as it is one of the few places on the coast of West Africa where mountainous land is found close to the sea. Its conical peaks, of which the highest is Picket Hill (2,700 ft.), are visible for great distances at certain seasons of the year, but at other times are frequently shrouded in mist or clouds. These mountains are of very old volcanic formation, consisting chiefly of norite. The Peninsula is well wooded in places, but was probably always thinly populated on account of its mountainous character and the rocky and somewhat poor nature of its soil. Possibly these two characteristics account for the comparative readiness of the ruling chiefs and their people to concede the

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 851 [Cd: 7622-42]

land to the British Government on various occasions between the years 1788 and 1861. The total area of the Peninsula is about 330 square miles and its population, including Freetown, numbers about 80,000.

Freetown, the capital of the Colony, is situated on the north-east corner of the Peninsula on a fine natural harbour formed by the mouth of the Rokelle or Sierra Leone River. The deep channel, which is over a mile in width, affords anchorage for the largest ships close in shore, and on this account during the Great War Freetown Harbour was of great importance from an Imperial point of view.

The town itself is on the whole well laid out with straight and often broad streets, thanks to the surveyors who accompanied even the earliest expedition for the purpose of establishing a settlement, and who formed the nucleus of a well-planned town. During the past twelve years a number of fine buildings and offices have been erected, and during the past five years the streets have been taken in hand and improved to such an extent that at the present time over a hundred motor vehicles ply in Freetown. The town enjoys a splendid pipe-borne water supply, the catchment area being situated in the mountains, where there is a large reservation of land. This and other equally important sanitary improvements have done much towards dispelling the evil reputation from which the city has long suffered. The population of Freetown is about 40,000.

Sherbro Island, which is almost equal in area to the Peninsula, is situated at the estuaries of several large rivers and owes its importance as a trading centre to this fact. The island is flat and sandy generally and is intersected by creeks. The capital is Bonthe, a port of call for ocean-going steamers, and next in size and importance to Freetown.

The configuration of the Protectorate varies considerably in different localities. Speaking generally, the Protectorate is well watered by a network of rivers and streams. There are at least eight or nine considerable rivers with wide estuaries; owing, however, to the shape of the ground, which gradually rises from the coast to a range of hills in the north-east, which forms part of the Futa Jallon Range (the watershed of an important system of rivers, including the Niger and the Gambia), few of the rivers of Sierra Leone are navigable for more than a short portion of their length. The Bum or Bum-Kittam River, which flows parallel to Turner's Peninsula (formerly part of the Colony), is really the estuary of several rivers forming a delta, since it has two exits into the sea. The current, however, sets towards Sherbro Island even in the dry season, and the Bum-Kittam constitutes a valuable waterway between Bonthe and certain ports on the Sewa and Wanje rivers.

The nature of the country also varies considerably. Roughly speaking, a line drawn due east from Freetown indicates approximately the point at which the dense bush country (originally tropical forest) of the south merges with the more open thinly-wooded, grassy country of the north. In the northern belt the rainfall is somewhat less than in the south, and the nights are undoubtedly cooler.

The Protectorate supports an average of nearly 50 persons to the square mile, but the population, generally speaking, is considerably denser in the southern or forest regrowth belt (locally known as "bush" country).

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is now divided into three provinces under Provincial Commissioners; each province is subdivided into four districts under District Commissioners.

The population of the Protectorate is now estimated at 1,500,000 and is composed of the following tribes:—

Northern Province..	Susus, Yalunkas, Karankos, Limbas, Lokkos, and Timnes, with some Mandingoes and Fullahs.
Central Province ..	Konnòs, Kissis and Mendes.
Southern Province..	Krims, Veis, Golas, Sherbros and some Mendes.

The Mendes are far more numerous than the other tribes. The largest towns in the Protectorate have a population of about 2,000, but these are comparatively few in number; the bulk of the population resides in villages ranging in size from 30 to 100 houses.

HISTORICAL.

In one respect the history of Sierra Leone, differs from that of other British West African colonies; from the commencement Sierra Leone was really a colony and not merely a trading station. Her colonists were certain Africans who became stranded in London after the close of the American War in 1782, in which they had taken part, and certain Europeans presumably seeking adventure. In 1787 a party of these colonists, under Captain Thompson of the Royal Navy, to whom had been entrusted the task of forming a settlement, landed at Sierra Leone and succeeded in obtaining from the local chief (King Tom) a grant of land of about 20 square miles on the site which is at present occupied by Freetown. This grant was subsequently confirmed in 1788 by the paramount chief (Nembanna, which, strictly speaking, means Regent Chief), who ceded the land for ever on receiving payment.

In 1791 a charter was granted to the Sierra Leone Company with exclusive right to lands purchased from native chiefs. In 1792 the original colonists were joined by a large party of Africans from Nova Scotia, who were unable to stand the rigours of that climate ; later on the number of settlers was still further increased by numerous shiploads of Africans rescued from slave-ships by His Majesty's Navy, then engaged in suppressing the overseas slave traffic.

For the first 20 years of its existence the Colony suffered many hardships and privations through famine and disease, besides being attacked three times from the land by the Timnes and once from the sea by a French squadron.

In 1807 King Farima and King Tom ceded to the Sierra Leone Company, by treaty, the whole of the Sierra Leone Peninsula and its dependencies. In 1808 the possessions of the Sierra Leone Company was transferred to the Crown and the first Governor was appointed. From this date the condition of the Colony commenced to improve. It is interesting to note that from 1814 to 1888, a period of 74 years, 18 Governors or Acting Governors (with the exception of one who was killed) died in Sierra Leone or on their way home from the Colony, out of a total of 60 different officers who administered the Government during that period.

About 1820 the Colony began to take an interest in the affairs of the hinterland and a number of treaties were made with the surrounding chiefs by which certain lands—for example, Bunce Island, Port Lokko, and Kaffu Bullon—were ceded to the Crown ; some of these treaties, however, were not ratified by the Crown. About 1852 the Government of the Colony began to make its weight felt in the Protectorate by the settlement of tribal wars. The same year the first mail steamer from England arrived in the Colony. In 1886 the Colony was placed in telegraphic communication with England. In 1895 the Northern boundary between the British and French spheres of influence and interests was ratified by agreement, the Eastern boundary being subsequently defined in 1911 by agreements between the British and French Governments and the British and Liberian Governments.

In 1896 the hinterland of Sierra Leone was proclaimed a Protectorate and Ordinances were passed providing for its administration.

The year 1898 was marked by an insurrection in the Protectorate, which commenced in the Karene District by the refusal of a Timne chief (Bai Bureh) to pay the House Tax, which was being imposed for the first time. In April the insurrection became more general and many Mende chiefdoms were involved.

Early in the following year the military operations which had become necessary were brought to a successful conclusion, and since that date the Protectorate has, on the whole, remained extremely peaceful. Progress has, perhaps, been slower than in other West African Colonies, but it has been steady.

I. GENERAL.

At the beginning of the year the prices of the staple exports of the Colony were high, employment was good, and these largely counteracted the high cost of living caused by the price of imported goods and of native foodstuffs.

During the year the Colony was threatened with a serious shortage of rice. The crop of the previous year was hardly sufficient for the needs of the Protectorate population and the amount of native rice brought into the Colony was inadequate. Prices rose rapidly. Rice was not permitted to be exported from the United Kingdom except under permit, and the price at which it could be sold in Freetown put it far beyond the means of the poorer classes in the community. Under these circumstances the Government became the sole importer of rice and arranged for its sale at a reasonable price, establishing various depôts throughout Freetown, and supplying rice as required to the districts. Eight hundred and seventy tons were imported, the greater part of which was sold by the end of the year. While the quantity imported was by no means adequate for the rationing of Freetown even, it was sufficient to stabilise prices and prevent hoarding of, and profiteering in, the supplies available in the country. The rice was sold at a loss, which had to be borne out of the revenue of the Colony, but the loss to the Colony would have been much greater had there been no regulation of prices. There would have been widespread distress and discontent and it would have been impossible to resist demands for further increases in wages and salaries.

In the Protectorate the most important circumstance was the division of the Protectorate into three Provinces. The arrangements for this were complete about the middle of the year. The change has been found to lead to greater administrative efficiency.

While the year was a prosperous one, the prosperity was, when carefully considered, largely fictitious, being based on inflated prices that could not be expected to continue for long, and at the end of the year it was evident that the commercial and industrial depression in Europe in the last quarter of the year would react severely on the prosperity of Sierra Leone.

II. FINANCIAL.

(a) Revenue.

The revenue for the year amounted to the sum of £999,382, as compared with £748,779 in 1919, and exceeded the Estimates by £242,005.

The following table gives a detailed comparison between the years 1913, 1919 and 1920.

	1913.	1919.	1920.
Customs	£317,463	£441,711	£630,052
Light Dues	6,938	6,304	8,029
Licences	79,745	73,723	74,762
Fees of Court	17,853	25,675	29,336
Post Office	14,487	11,666	11,994
Rents	417	548	473
Interest	12,324	12,329	18,942
Miscellaneous	1,821	1,381	13,817
Railway	167,304	175,442	201,092
Land Sales	31	—	11
Reimbursement by Freetown Water Authority	—	—	10,874
Total	£618,383	£748,779	£999,382

1913 was the last complete year of peace working and a large revenue was derived from duties on trade spirits.

The high revenue for the year is to be attributed to the high prices paid for produce and the equally high prices of imported goods and to the imposition of an export duty on palm kernels, palm oil and kola nuts.

(b) Expenditure.

The expenditure for the year amounted to the sum of £843,403, as compared with £740,383 in 1919, and exceeded the Estimate by £74,102.

All departments showed increases, the most significant being the increase in pensions and gratuities from £8,228 in 1913 to £21,497 in 1920, the Prisons from £8,633 to £26,722, and the Railway Department £146,060 to £254,303. The increases are due to increases of salaries and increases of cost of materials.

The statement of expenditure does not include the expenses of compensating Syrians for their losses during the anti-Syrian riots, as the Commission had not completed its work by the end of the year and payments made are still shown as "Awards—Syrians" till a final adjustment can be made; nor does it show the net cost to the Government of the sale of rice under cost price during the period of scarcity.

(c) Loan Expenditure.

The net proceeds of the loan of £1,000,000 amounted to £942,827. Of this £494,565 was spent on the redemption of Bonds of the 1904 loan, £325,550 on Railway extension and £119,446 on Freetown Harbour Works, leaving a balance unexpended of £3,246.

(d) Assets and Liabilities.

The balance of assets at the end of the year amounted to £483,950.

The principal items are :

Cash Balance on 31st December, 1920	£	41,298
Railway Stores ..	£54,253	
Open Line Cash ..	13,165	
	—	67,418
P.W.D. Stores Suspense Account ..	•35,173	
Prisons Suspense Account	5,905	
Surplus Funds (invested)	168,961	

On 31st December, 1920, the market value of the securities held was £106,678.

Had it been possible to adjust the accounts respecting the payment of carriers serving in East Africa and the awards to Syrians for losses in the anti-Syrian riots, the balance of assets over liabilities would have been substantially reduced.

(e) Public Debt.

The funded debt of the Colony at the end of December, 1920, was £1,729,848, and the sinking fund amounted to £170,547 2s. 2d.

(f) Currency.

The Imperial and West African silver coins are current and also West African notes of the following values, £5, £1, 10s., 2s. and 1s. The 5-franc pieces of France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland are also current at the pre-war value of 3s. 10½d. each. The importation of these 5-franc pieces was prohibited in 1916, but there are still considerable numbers of these coins in circulation owing to the local trade across the land frontier with French Guinea.

Considerable inconvenience was caused during the first half of the year owing to the shortage of silver coins, especially of the smaller denominations, and the unpopularity of the 1s. and 2s. currency notes. In the local markets these notes were regarded as of less value than the corresponding silver coins. As the currency situation was worse on the Gold Coast attempts

were made by various speculators to buy up the silver coins in Sierra Leone for currency notes, export them to the Gold Coast and sell them there for currency notes. At one time as much as 3s. in every £1 could be made in this manner, and the Government prohibited the exportation of silver currency by an Order-in-Council under Ordinance No. 6 of 1916. This action and the importation of considerable quantities of silver and nickel coins relieved the situation.

£109,600 of the new alloy coin was received in 1920, and divided between the two Banks and the Colonial Government. Of this £70,400 was still on hand on the 31st December.

£3,000 of nickel-bronze coin was received, and £958 issued by the end of the year. This coin is being used gradually to replace the old bronze currency

There were notes in circulation at the beginning of the year to the value of £177,670. 123,005 notes were issued during the year—£300,675.

There were withdrawn from circulation notes to the value of £311,280, and in circulation at the end of the year there were notes to the value of £46,237; there being thus excess notes redeemed during the year of £56,914.

As Freetown is the last port of call for vessels on the homeward voyage, considerable quantities of West African Currency Notes issued in the other Colonies are landed here, thus accounting for the excess redemption.

(g) *Banking.*

There are two banks—The Bank of British West Africa and the Colonial Bank—both with headquarters in Freetown. The former has a branch at Sherbro and agencies at the more important trade centres in the Protectorate. The Government has accounts at both banks.

Each Bank has a Savings Bank branch which forms an important part of their business and which has materially affected the transactions at the Government Savings Bank.

III. TRADE, INDUSTRIES AND SHIPPING.

The total value of imports into the Colony in 1920 was £3,548,478, as compared with £2,123,334 in 1919.

The increase was caused partly by increased imports due to the withdrawal of restrictions on trade, partly to the high values of imported goods.

The following table shows the value of the imports for the years 1913, 1919 and 1920.

	1913.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Commercial Imports	1,291,982	1,980,382	3,175,835
Government Imports	146,053	54,488	124,673
Specie	312,268	88,474	247,970
Totals	1,750,303	2,123,344	3,548,478

	1913.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	354,488	735,242	844,832
Raw articles and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	103,680	286,186	776,253
Articles mainly manufactured	979,449	1,013,442	1,679,419
Miscellaneous	418	—	9
Specie	312,268	88,474	247,970
Totals	£1,750,303	£2,123,344	£3,548,478

Unmanufactured tobacco shows a decrease in imports of 1,218,634 lb., valued at £72,325. Importation, however, was above the average: the quantity imported during 1919 being abnormally large.

Food and Drink showed material increases in imports, including spirits, of which 81,552 gallons, of a value of £60,940, were imported in 1919, as compared with 88,656 gallons, of a value of £72,955, in 1920.

Taken at 100° Tralles the imports for the two years were 44,695 gallons in 1919 and 41,466 in 1920. In 1913 the imports of spirits were 632,087 gallons, of a declared value of £90,729, and 275,464 gallons taken at 100° Tralles.

The revenue derived from imports of spirits was:

	£
1913	173,565
1919	44,354
1920	86,061

and the rate of duty charged steadily increased from 5s. 6d. an imperial gallon at 50 per cent. Tralles on 1st January, 1913, to £1 an imperial gallon of 50 per cent. Tralles on 31st December, 1920.

The value of spirits imported, as compared with the whole import trade, including specie, is shown below :

1913	..	..	..	..	5·18 per cent.
1914	..	..	..	..	3·26 per cent.
1915	..	..	..	..	4·47 per cent.
1916	..	..	..	..	4·09 per cent.
1917	..	..	..	..	3·57 per cent.
1918	..	..	..	..	4·27 per cent.
1919	..	..	..	..	2·83 per cent.
1920	..	..	..	..	2·05 per cent.

The export of rice from the United Kingdom was prohibited except under licence, owing to a world-wide shortage of this product. There was in consequence a reduction in commercial imports of rice of £83,024; Government, however, imported rice to the value of £46,874.

Cotton goods imported increased in volume and in value from £461,089 in 1919 to £875,462 in 1920, a total increase of £404,364.

Iron manufactures, woollen goods, etc., also increased. There were much heavier imports of bunker coal, accounting for the increase of imports of raw materials. The imports of coal during the two years were as follows :—

1919—31,060 tons valued at £164,171, average price £5·286 per ton, all from the United Kingdom.

1920.	Tons.	Value.	Price Average.
		£	£
United Kingdom	55,798	427,385	7·66
Nigeria	2,965	28,464	9·60
Natal	6,151	57,412	9·334
United States of America ..	7,435	134,673	18·113
Total	72,349	£647,934	£8·955

Exports.

The total shipments were valued at the port of shipment at £2,949,380, as compared with £2,101,569 in 1919 and £1,731,252 in 1913.

The following is a comparative table :

	1913.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Produce and Manufacture of the Colony	1,376,603	1,806,736	2,247,743
Coal	—	121,308	580,077
Other British and Foreign Produce and Manufacture..	113,685	119,533	88,353
Specie	240,964	53,992	33,207
Total	£1,731,252	£2,101,569	£2,949,380

The increased prices paid for palm kernels, palm oil and kola nuts account for the increased values of exports of produce of the Colony : there were no increases on the quantities exported.

Coal exports show a great increase, partly due to the cost of fuel, partly to the fact that Admiralty shipments were not included in 1919 return.

The following is a comparative statement of the quantities of the principal exports :

	1919.	1920.
Ginger (tons)	1,069	1,432
Hides (leaves)	10,692	3,677
Kola Nuts (tons)	2,995	2,657
Palm Kernels (tons)	50,622	50,425
Palm Oil	3,315	2,066
Piassava	1,059	657

When scrutinized the trade figures for the year cannot be considered satisfactory, depending as they do on inflated prices for the exports from the Colony and equally excessive values of commercial imports, as the following table will show :

Year.	Commercial Imports.	Exports Produce of Colony.	Increase Exports over Imports.	Increase Imports over Exports.
1913	£1,291,982	£1,376,603	£84,621	—
1919	1,980,382	1,806,736	—	173,646
1920	3,175,835	2,247,743	—	928,092

Correcting the 1919 and 1920 figures by excluding the value of coal from the commercial imports, the increased value of imports over exports is in 1919, £9,475, and in 1920, £280,148.

The kola nut trade is always a fluctuating trade, and prices per measure of 168 lb. ranged from £8 in April to £24 in December, while the yield was not equal to that of the previous year.

With the large demand for kolas in French Guinea and elsewhere cultivation on plantation lines would probably stabilise both the quantities exported and the values. At the same time it is a peculiar trade and the preparation of the nuts for shipment requires the utmost care, every nut has to be carefully cleaned and dried or a whole consignment may be rendered unmarketable.

The following table shows the average values at the port of shipment of palm kernels and palm oil during the last twenty years.

Palm Kernels.

1901	..	..	£ 7.89 per ton	1911	..	..	£ 15.33 per ton
1902	..	..	8.90 "	1912	..	..	15.63 "
1903	..	..	8.63 "	1913	..	..	18.72 "
1904	..	..	8.51 "	1914	..	..	15.52 "
1905	..	..	9.57 "	1915	..	..	12.72 "
1906	..	..	10.88 "	1916	..	..	15.02 "
1907	..	..	12.82 "	1917	..	..	14.52 "
1908	..	..	9.87 "	1918	..	..	16.74 "
1909	..	..	11.25 "	1919	..	..	23.54 "
1910	..	..	14.98 "	1920	..	..	27.79 "

Palm Oil.

1901	..	..	£ 14.87 per ton	1911	..	..	£ 26.73 per ton
1902	..	..	14.15 "	1912	..	..	23.00 "
1903	..	..	15.09 "	1913	..	..	22.95 "
1904	..	..	16.97 "	1914	..	..	21.99 "
1905	..	..	17.33 "	1915	..	..	23.60 "
1906	..	..	18.32 "	1916	..	..	23.92 "
1907	..	..	21.07 "	1917	..	..	28.72 "
1908	..	..	18.53 "	1918	..	..	32.38 "
1909	..	..	18.77 "	1919	..	..	34.84 "
1910	..	..	24.24 "	1920	..	..	59.63 "

These tables show that, while there has been on the whole a steady rise in the average values of both kernels and oils from 1901, the values during 1919 and 1920 were altogether abnormal and cannot be expected to recur.

Direction of Trade.

Of the total import trade £2,559,047, or 72.11 per cent., came from the United Kingdom, as compared with 64.66 per cent. in 1919 and 65.06 per cent. in 1913. £527,962, or 14.88 per cent., was with the United States, as compared with 25.11 in 1919.

Of the export trade £1,569,300, or 53·20 per cent., went to the United Kingdom, £503,653 (17·06 per cent.) to British West African possessions, £240,278 (8·15 per cent.) to Foreign West African possessions, and £45,079 (1·52 per cent.) to the United States of America. In 1913 the United Kingdom was responsible for 65·06 per cent. of the import trade and only 13·29 per cent. of the export trade, and Germany was responsible for 9·95 per cent. of the import trade and 47·49 per cent. of the export trade.

Shipping.

Four hundred and ninety-six vessels, of a total tonnage of 1,218,846, entered in 1920, as compared with 449 of a tonnage of 1,000,658 in 1919, and 493 vessels of a total tonnage of 1,201,491 cleared, as compared with 450 of a tonnage of 1,010,041 in 1919. Thirty-seven of the vessels entered were sailing ships, of a tonnage of 1,749, the remainder were steamships. Of the vessels entered, 387 of a tonnage of 1,039,698 were British, 109 of a tonnage of 179,148 were foreign.

In 1913, 476 steam vessels, of a tonnage of 1,024,869, were British, and 191 of a tonnage of 406,811 were German, the total being 702 steam vessels of a tonnage of 1,460,197. In 1913, 70·19 per cent. of the vessels entered were British, and 27·06 German. In 1920, 85·3 per cent. of the vessels entered were British.

In addition to the British lines there is a regular service of American vessels from New York, and Dutch vessels from Continental ports.

IV. LEGISLATION.

Twenty-seven Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year, of which the following are the more important :—

No. 2 of 1920.—"The Deportation of Aliens." This provided for the deportation from the Colony, or Protectorate, of persons not of British nationality.

No. 4 of 1920.—"The Protectorate Amendment Ordinance," which divided the Protectorate into three Provinces, and provided for the appointment of Provincial Commissioners.

No. 10 of 1920.—"The Repatriation of Convicted Natives Ordinance." This Ordinance aimed at the repatriation from the Colony of natives of the Protectorate convicted of offences in the Colony.

No. 16 of 1920.—"The Spirituous Liquors Ordinance," passed to give effect to the Convention of St. Germain en Laye, relating to the Liquor Traffic in Africa, and to prohibit the importation of Trade Spirits.

V. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.

(a) Agriculture.

In the Agricultural Department, the sub-stations at Bumpah and Waterloo were found to be unsuitable and were closed down. The Batkanu experimental station was continued, but there is nothing of importance to record.

Farmers and others on the Bullom shore were encouraged to plant cocoanuts, and 10,000 nuts were got from Waterloo and distributed.

With a view of checking the parasitic disease that infects the native ground-nuts, ground-nuts were imported from French Guinea and sold to farmers in Bullom and elsewhere, but it is too early yet to know the results.

Experimental work was continued at N'Jala, but the results were rather disappointing, the crops being attacked by white ants and fungous disease.

Cocoa is still being grown, but with the exception of certain areas in the south of the Southern Province, where the plant will grow well, there is not sufficient depth of soil in other parts for successful cultivation.

While it is possible to devise a scientific rotation of crops which will enable land to be kept under continuous cultivation, no economic rotation has yet been discovered—that is a rotation of crops each of which will be of value to the farmer.

Taking the Protectorate as a whole, the food crops were good, and there were adequate supplies of the staple crops: rice, cassava, millet and maize.

(b) Forestry.

The Peninsula Reserves were looked after during the year.

In the Protectorate the exportation of gum copal was again prohibited, to prevent over-tapping of trees in Kessowa Reserve. The native method of tapping gum copal trees has been found to be the only practicable one. In the gum copal reserve natural regeneration is good, and when looked after the trees grow at the expense of the grass.

The Nimini Hills and other reservations have been demarcated, but the Reserve Settlement Court has not yet been held. These reservations are climatic and not commercial, as they are too far from the Railway for timber to be profitably extracted.

The restricted areas for mangroves on the Bumpe and Ribbi rivers, and for gum copal in the Yonni country, have been maintained.

(c) Native Industries.

These are few and only sufficient to meet local requirements; the most important being the fishing industry. Large quantities of imperfectly dried and cured fish are made on the coast and sent into the interior for sale.

Properly organised a fishing industry could be made a profitable undertaking.

VI. EDUCATION.

In both the Colony and Protectorate education is largely in the hands of the Missions.

(A) COLONY.

The Government Institutions are the following :—

The Model School, providing both primary and secondary education and training classes for teachers. There are 224 boys and 70 girls attending the primary classes; 115 boys attending the secondary classes and 16 boys attending the training classes.

The Madrasas or Mohammedan Schools are five in number and provide elementary education for 381 boys and 213 girls.

The standard of the Model School is good, but the class rooms are congested and additional accommodation is required.

The following schedules give details of the primary schools in the Colony, divided into two groups—aided and non-aided.

(a) Aided.

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	Number on Rolls.	
		Boys.	Girls.
1. Anglican	42	1,558	1,327
2. Wesleyan Methodist ..	29	1,136	847
3. Roman Catholic	9	477	288
4. United Methodist	10	323	273
5. Countess of Huntingdon ..	4	110	83
6. African Methodist Episcopal	4	121	88
7. United Brethren in Christ ..	1	89	38
	97	3,814	2,944

These schools earned £3,649 in Government Grants in 1920.

(b) Non-Aided Primary Schools in Colony.

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	Number on Rolls.	
		Boys.	Girls.
1. Anglican	5	238	143
2. Wesleyan Methodist.. .. .	4	60	41
3. Roman Catholic	2	68	35
4. United Methodist	4	45	33
5. Countess of Huntingdon	6	117	52
6. Seventh Day Adventist	2	89	24
7. United Brethren in Christ	1	6	3
	24	623	331

Secondary Schools.

There are eleven secondary schools in the Colony, excluding the Government Model School. Of these three are assisted schools. Three schools have submitted no details.

The total number on the rolls of the schools submitting details are 1,137 and the average attendance 882. The three assisted secondary schools received £279 in Capitation Grants.

Of the secondary schools, the principal are Fourah Bay Collège (affiliated to the University of Durham) the Grammar School and the Albert Academy for boys and the Annie Walsh School for girls.

Examinations are held for all schools for the Elementary and Intermediate Examinations: all candidates for the Civil Service Entrance Examinations must have passed the latter examination.

	Candidates.	Passes.
Elementary Certificate Examination	376	159
Intermediate Certificate Examination	132	66

Examinations are also held for the Cambridge Junior and Senior Local Examinations, and the following were successful during the year :

	Entered	Passed
Cambridge Junior	24	10
Cambridge Senior	11	1

Fourah Bay College, which is affiliated to Durham University, holds examinations for the B.A. Degree, and twelve students received the degree in 1920.

Trades Schools.

There is a non-aided Trades School at Waterloo, at which useful work is done in joinery, carpentry, etc.

The Sir Alfred Jones Trades School was opened during the year, partly supported by the interest on a sum of money left by the late Sir Alfred Jones, partly by Government Grant. Six boys were admitted and are being trained.

(B) PROTECTORATE.

The Government Institutions in the Protectorate are :

- (1) The Bo School for the Sons and Nominees of Chiefs.
- (2) The Agricultural College, N'Jala.
- (3) Bumpe School.
- (4) Baima School.
- (5) Gbangbama School.
- (6) Gambia.

The last three are Anglo-vernacular schools.

The Bo School has 160 boys on the roll and maintains the high standard of efficiency set in previous years.

N'Jala Agricultural College is a boarding school for the training of vernacular school teachers and has 60 boys on the roll. It is intended to produce teachers with a practical knowledge of agriculture. At present the school is restricted to Mendi pupils.

The Bumpe School had an average attendance of 40 boys : the Baima School 20 : shortage of the European Staff of the Bo School prevented adequate supervision being given to these and to the Gbangbama and Kambia Anglo-vernacular schools.

So far nothing has been done by Government for the education of girls in the Protectorate.

VII. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.*(a) Savings Bank.*

There is a Savings Bank in connection with the Post Office, but its business has declined in recent years, largely owing to the growth of the Savings Bank business branches of the two Banks.

(b) Hospitals and Asylums.

The Colonial Hospital was completely destroyed by fire early in February and all the records were burnt. Pending the construction of the new Hospital, temporary accommodation for a limited number of patients was arranged in the old Law Courts building, there being a male ward and a small maternity ward.

710 patients were admitted to hospital and there were 53 deaths, seven following operation. 62 operations were performed. There were 16 patients in hospital at the end of the year.

8,152 out-patients were treated at the Colonial Hospital, 3,000 at the Cline Town Dispensary and 1,466 at the Kissy Dispensary.

At the Lunatic Asylum, Kissy, there were 137 inmates on 31st December, 1919, 49 were admitted during the year, 30 were discharged and 44 died, leaving 112 inmates on 31st December, 1920.

The patients who are mentally and physically fit are employed on light work.

The following are the statistics of the Incurable Hospitals :

	Female.	Male.	Total.
Under treatment on Dec. 31, 1919 ..	43	82	125
Admitted during year	105	254	359
Discharged	72	168	240
Died	34	110	144
In Hospital Dec. 31, 1920	42	58	100

At the Leper Asylum there were four patients at the beginning of the year, one was admitted and four died.

Seven cases of small-pox were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, of which three died, and 13 cases of chicken-pox, of which three died.

Nursing Home.

There were 209 admissions, 78 being Government Officials, 109 were cases of malaria and 5 cases of blackwater fever. Two officials and three non-officials died.

VIII. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

The Police Force is employed in the Colony only, Police work in the Protectorate being performed by Court Messengers under the control of the Provincial Commissioners.

At the end of 1920 the Police Force consisted of a Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, eleven European Inspectors and 291 Non-Commissioned Officers and men, as compared with two Officers and 282 Non-Commissioned Officers and men in 1919.

The anti-Syrian riots in 1919 had shown that a higher standard of training and discipline was required in the Police, and the European Inspectors were brought out to secure this.

The health of the Force was fairly good.

The additional European Staff enabled a higher standard of discipline to be attained. 33 Non-Commissioned Officers and 402 men were punished for breach of discipline during the year.

The following table shows the cases reported and arrests made in 1919 and 1920 :

Year.	Cases reported.	Arrests made.	Convictions.	Percentage convictions to arrests.
1919	1,998	2,615	2,104	80%
1920	2,078	2,480	1,959	79%

The following is a comparative statement of the serious crimes reported during the two years :

	1919	1920
Murder	2	2
House-breaking	19	11
Burglary	14	6
Shop-breaking	12	22
Rape	1	0
Larceny	922	866
Receiving	85	129

Fire Brigade.

The Fire Brigade is under the control of the Town Council. The most serious fire occurred in February, when the Colonial Hospital was destroyed.

Prisons.

The following are the admissions to Freetown Prison during the two years 1919 and 1920 :

	1919	1920
Males	1,317	1,324
Females	26	22
Juveniles	30	34

The average prison population in 1919 was 343 males and 5 females, and in 1920 431 males and 4 females: 164 persons were convicted in the Higher Court. There was one execution.

Under the Repatriation of Convicted Prisoners Ordinance (No. 10 of 1920) 123 convicted prisoners were ordered to be repatriated to the Protectorate on completing their sentences and 12 were convicted for returning to the Colony without permission. There were 263 admissions to hospital during the year and seven deaths.

The general health of the prisoners was good and the sanitary condition of the gaol satisfactory.

In the Protectorate prisons 1,068 persons were committed to prison in 1920, as compared with 1,503 in 1919, the daily average for the year being 207.

Criminal Statistics.

In the Supreme Court of the Colony 100 persons were convicted, 57 of whom were for larceny and 28 for other offences against property, as compared with 181 in 1919, of which 123 are for offences against property. The anti-Syrian riots in 1919 accounted in part for the large number of cases that year.

In the Circuit Court of the Protectorate 66 persons were convicted, of which 20 were for larceny and 8 for other offences against property, as compared with 74 in 1919, of which 43 were offences against property.

In the Police Magistrates' Court, Freetown, 2,214 persons were convicted summarily, 906 being for larceny and 1,078 for offences against revenue laws and kindred laws, as compared with 2,941 convictions in 1919, 857 for larceny and 1,547 for offences against revenue laws.

In the District Commissioner's Court at Waterloo there were 195 convictions, 123 being for larceny, and in the District Commissioner's Court, Bonthe, there were 279 convictions.

In the Courts of the District Commissioners of the Protectorate 620 persons were convicted.

IX. VITAL STATISTICS, &c.

European Population.

The number of European (including American) residents in 1920 was :

Officials	..	..	..	..	233
Non-Officials	..	..	..	..	300 (estimated)
Military	..	..	..	..	495
					<hr/>
					1,028

The average number of official residents was 133, as compared with 102 in 1919, and 10 were invalided during the year. The following is a comparative tabulation of the deaths of Europeans from climatic and non-climatic causes in the Colony and Protectorate since 1911 :

Years.		Landed from Vessels		Colony and Protectorate.				Total.
				Non-Military.		Military.		
		Climatic.	Non-Climatic.	Climatic	Non-Climatic	Clim.	Non-Clim.	
1911	..	2	5	2	1	0	1	11
1912	..	—	—	3	3	3	2	11
1913	..	—	—	4	1	3	2	10
1914	..	—	—	4	1	3	—	8
1915	..	1	1	7	3	2	—	14
1916	..	3	3	2	1	3	4	16
1917	..	—	12	4	2	1	3	22
1918*	..	—	46	—	6	3	7	62
1919	..	3	3	4	6	2	—	18
1920	..	—	2	5	3	—	—	10

* Influenza Epidemic.

Hill Station.

The total number of residents at Hill Station during the year was 49, as compared with 57 in 1919 ; of these 27 were officials, one missionary, seven military and 15 non-officials, including wives of civil and military officials. On the whole the health of the residents was good.

Population of the Colony

(as distinguished from the Protectorate).

The population of the Colony was returned at the census of 1911 as 75,572 (41,001 males and 34,571 females). The number of births registered in 1920 was 1,501, or 20 per 1,000, and of deaths 2,058, or 27 per 1,000. According to the census of 1911 the population of Freetown was 34,090 ; 716 births and 1,035 deaths were registered, or 21 per 1,000 and 30 per 1,000 respectively.

The excess of deaths over births both in Freetown and in the Colony generally cannot be depended on as being accurate. Registration of births and deaths is nominally compulsory in Freetown and the Colony, but while the registration of deaths is probably correct, as bodies have to be buried, the registration of births is not accurate. There is a large population of Protectorate natives living in Freetown and the Colony, many of whom will not trouble to register the births of children.

Fifty still-births were registered in Freetown. These are not included in the above totals.

Protectorate Population.

The estimated population of the Protectorate is 1,327,560. This is based on the 1911 census. Another census will be taken in 1921.

Vaccination.

Twenty-six thousand six hundred and seventy-two vaccinations were performed in 1920, as compared with 47,702 in 1919 ; of these 9,819 were successful, 5,430 unsuccessful, and 11,423 were not seen afterwards.

Sanitation.

The Colony and Protectorate were free from epidemic disease during the year and the port of Freetown was never in quarantine. Quarantine was declared against various West African ports owing to small-pox, but no outbreaks of yellow fever or plague were reported.

The number of mosquito larvae prosecutions in the Freetown Police Court was 438, as against 563 in 1919. The closing of wells commenced systematically in 1918 was continued, and the total number closed during the year was 176, leaving about 55 still open. It is hoped that this measure will bring about a great diminution in the incidence of water-borne disease, besides getting rid of a serious breeding-ground for mosquitoes, both Anopheline and Culicine.

About 2,000 yards of concrete surface drainage were put in, mainly in the Western area of Freetown, and in conjunction with this some 16 acres of low-lying compounds were raised and drained. In this way one of the most malarious quarters of the town has been greatly improved.

Seven thousand five hundred and forty rats were paid for by the Sanitary Department at the rate of 3d. per head.

Successful experiments were made with varnish as a means of catching rats, and poisons such as squill and barium carbonate were also tried.

Two Venturi meters were installed in connection with the waterworks. It is now possible to record both hourly and total daily supply, and to locate and control excessive consumption. The average daily consumption of water in Freetown is 392,000 gallons, or about 11·5 gallons per head.

Climate.

The year 1920 was characterized by an extremely low rainfall, the total for the year, 106·85 inches, being the lowest on record with the exception of 1914 and 1918, when the rainfall was 102·34 and 103·43 ; with the exception of two or three slight showers

towards the end of April there was no rain during the first four months of the year. July, with a rainfall of over 40 inches, was wetter than usual. In August there was a distinct break in the rains, not uncommon in other parts of West Africa but unusual in Sierra Leone.

The tornadoes appeared to be slighter than usual.

The following are the monthly records of temperature and rainfall for 1920 at the Tower Hill Observatory, which is 180 feet above sea level :

Month.	Mean Air Temperature in Shade.		Total Rainfall in inches.
	Maximum	Minimum	
	°F.	°F.	
January	89	74	—
February	91	94	—
March	89	74	—
April	89	74	0·31
May	89	74	5·67
June	85	73	13·91
July	82	72	40·03
August	82	71	11·52
September	85	72	25·33
October	87	71	7·69
November	88	72	2·25
December	90	73	0·14
			106·85

Lowest temperature recorded, 65° on 22nd May ; highest, 99° on 24th February and 7th March.

X. POSTAL, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONE.

The business dealt with by the Department during the year, as compared with 1919, is as follows. The figures for 1913 are also shown as the last pre-war year of normal business :

	1913.	1919.	1920.
Money Orders (numbers) ..	12,272	7,587	6,653
„ „ (value)	£150,068	£103,842	£91,464
Postal Orders Issued	60,704	44,483	39,733
„ „ (value)	£37,790	£31,443	£29,641
„ „ Paid	43,995	37,966	30,239
„ „ (value)	£29,667	£27,784	£24,184
Postcards, Letters, Newspapers, received and despatched ..	1,590,693	1,564,413	1,631,697
Parcels, received and despatched	50,700	50,700	52,664

Both money order and postal order business show a material reduction, part of which is due to the transmission of currency notes by post.

The revenue and expenditure for the same period are as follows :

	1913.	1919.	1920.
Revenue	£14,487	£10,503	£11,994
Expenditure	£12,124	£11,885	£16,582
Customs duties collected through Post Office	£2,588	£6,772	£10,370
Stamps sold for Inland Revenue purposes (value)	£2,491	£3,876	£3,789
Number of Post Offices open ..	53	43	44

The 1913 revenue was to a certain extent abnormal owing to large sales of Georgian stamps to collectors, the revenue for 1912 being £9,547, and in 1914 £9,782.

The increase in expenditure is due to the increase in salaries and to an increase in the amount paid to the railway for the carriage of inland mails.

Postal rates on letters and parcels were increased in September on inland postage as well as on letters and parcels to the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The Telegraphs and Telephones are under the management of the Railway Department. The Head Office is at Water Street, Freetown, and there is a combined telegraph and telephone service to Pendembu (227½ miles from Freetown), with important transmitting stations at Boia (64½ miles) and Bo (136 miles from Freetown). From Boia there is a telegraph and telephone service to Kamabai, the terminus of the branch line (104 miles). From Mano on the railway there is a branch line through Serabu and Sengema to Bendu (71½ miles), whence telegrams are taken to York Island and Bonthe by a boat service, and from Sengema there is a branch line to Pujehun (47 miles).

From Songo Town (on the railway) there is a telephone to Port Lokko and Mabanta. This was constructed by, and is under the control of, the Imperial Military Authorities.

Apart from railway messages the following messages were transmitted :

	1919.	1920.
Public Telegrams ..	78,032	56,950
Government Telegrams	9,811	11,807

The revenue from telegrams was £5,577, as compared with £4,165 in 1919.

Telegrams to any part of the world are accepted at any railway station and sent through the office in Freetown of the African Direct Telegraph Company.

There is a local telephone service in Freetown with 75 subscribers, of which 23 are Government offices and quarters, 20 are railway offices, and 32 private subscribers.

The telephone revenue in 1920 amounted to £962 and the maintenance cost £620.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) Railways.

The total length of line open was 338 miles :

227½ Main Line. Water Street to Pendembu.

104 Branch Line Boia to Kamabai.

5½ Hill Station Line.

1 Branches to Ascension Town and Public Works.

338

The capital expenditure on 31st December, 1920, was £1,634,085.

The following are the comparative figures for 1913, 1919 and 1920:

	1913.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Gross Revenue	168,418	175,441	199,139
Expenditure	90,155	204,517	232,375*

* Exclusive of £20,427 extraordinary expenditure.

The War Bonus on salaries in 1919, and the increased salaries and wages paid, with the high price of coal and other materials, accounted for the great increase in working costs.

	1913.	1919.	1920.
Receipts per train-mile (in pence) ..	114·11	100·39	105·86
Working expenses per train-mile ..	61·09	97·96*	123·53
Passengers carried	438,388	616,793	507,272

* Inclusive of War Bonus.

The rates for passengers were increased during the year, and while the number of passengers decreased, there was a slight increase in revenue.

The total rolling-stock in use consisted of 44 engines, 97 coaching vehicles, and 386 goods vehicles, including 39 service vehicles.

The gross tonnage carried was 57,294 tons, as compared with 52,759 in 1919 and 62,084 in 1913.

(b) *Roads.*

The extension of the road system in the Colony and the Protectorate was carried on through the year and additional mileage opened for motor traffic. In the Protectorate the majority of the bridges erected were timber bridges, but they will be replaced in time by permanent bridges.

The number of motor cars and motor lorries has increased, but outside Freetown only light vehicles can at present be used.

(c) *Waterways.*

There is a considerable mileage of waterways in the Colony and Protectorate, but they are navigable only for light-draught vessels. Large quantities of produce are brought both to Freetown and Bonthe by these waterways, and a launch service would probably develop the trade in the areas served by the waterways to a greater extent.

XII. PUBLIC WORKS.

Apart from road construction the only public work of importance during the year was the erection of two blocks of wards for the new Colonial Hospital. These had been begun in 1914 and work discontinued on account of the war. They were not completed by the end of the year.

In the Public Works Department a considerable amount of work was done in making furniture for the new wards and also for the bungalows in Freetown and the Protectorate.

Experiments in brick-making were carried on during the year in the Protectorate, but while there are considerable supplies of clay, the proper mixture has not yet been got to enable really satisfactory bricks to be made.

XIII. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The Geological Survey of the Colony and Protectorate was carried on during the year. The results were of scientific interest, but with the exception of small deposits of iron ore and scattered deposits of clay no discoveries of economic value have been made. The reports for the years 1918-1919 and 1919-1920 have been published.

XIV. IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

ECONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS AND ENQUIRIES.

Reports on a number of products forwarded by Government officers were furnished to the Government of Sierra Leone during the year as a result of investigations carried out in the Scientific and Technical Department, supplemented when necessary by reference to commercial experts and manufacturers. In addition, information relating to a number of Sierra Leone products was supplied to enquirers.

Sisal Hemp.—This sample of sisal hemp was well grown and of exceptional length and compared favourably in quality with good commercial grades from East Africa. It was fairly well cleaned but was of uneven colour, and its value could be enhanced by the exercise of greater care in preparation. Consignments of similar material would be readily saleable in the United Kingdom, and enquiries were therefore made by the Imperial Institute as to the prospects of sisal hemp being produced in commercial quantities in Sierra Leone. The sample was, however, prepared from plants grown on a small plot at a Government Experimental Farm, and commercial supplies are not available at present.

Fibrous material from the Oil Palm.—A sample of fibrous material, consisting of the ribs of the leaflets of the oil palm, was forwarded for examination as a brush-making material. Brush-makers who were consulted by the Imperial Institute did not consider the fibre very suitable for the manufacture of brushes in comparison with piassava, as it is less elastic and durable and would give a large amount of waste in working. It seemed doubtful whether there would be a profitable market for the material in the United Kingdom, but two firms expressed their willingness to carry out practical trials in order to test the point. A further consignment was therefore requested from the Colony, together with information as to the price at which the fibre could be supplied on a commercial scale.

Cotton.—The Imperial Institute was asked by a company in Freetown to report on a sample of cotton grown experimentally, and to advise as to the desirability of cultivating it on a commercial scale. The sample was not of satisfactory character, and appeared to consist of a mixture of two or more varieties of the native cottons of Sierra Leone. It was suggested that better results might be obtained by planting an American variety already acclimatised to West Africa.

Native Fibres.—Information was supplied to an enquirer in Sierra Leone as to the possibility of certain native fibres finding a market in this country in competition with other rope-making materials, and reports were furnished on samples which he forwarded.

Antelope Skins.—In connection with a previous enquiry as to the possibility of exporting raw antelope skins from Sierra Leone, the Imperial Institute suggested that samples should be forwarded in order that their suitability for sale in the United Kingdom and their commercial value might be determined. On arrival of the samples, however, the demand for such skins in London was practically at a standstill owing to market conditions, and it was not possible to obtain any definite information as to their value. It was accordingly suggested that information regarding the quantities of skins available in the Colony, and the local prices, should be furnished in order that further action may be taken when conditions become more favourable for placing antelope skins on the United Kingdom market.

Citrate of Lime.—In connection with the proposed establishment by the Sierra Leone Government of an estate for the cultivation of limes on a commercial scale, and the erection of a factory to prepare lime products, full information was furnished to the Department of Agriculture as to the cost of establishing and maintaining a lime plantation; the usual yields of the various products and the current prices; the cost of plant for the manufacture of citrate of lime and concentrated lime-juice. Information was also supplied as to the relative advantages of making citrate of lime or concentrated lime-juice, and as to the results of the working of factories in other British Colonies.

PUBLICATIONS.

The following articles relating to subjects of special interest to Sierra Leone were published in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute for 1920 :—

“ The Cultivation and Preparation of Cocoa.”

“ The Cultivation of the African Oil Palm.”

SIERRA LEONE COURT.

The Public Exhibition Galleries, including the portion occupied by the Sierra Leone Court, were redecorated throughout during the year, after being in the occupation of H.M. Government for war purposes. The Sierra Leone show-cases and exhibits have been reinstalled.

J. C. MAXWELL,

Colonial Secretary.

20th August, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	"
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	1919-1920
1079	Uganda	"
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1091.

ZANZIBAR.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1052.)



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No. 1091.

ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of Zanzibar is situated in 6° S. latitude and is separated from the mainland by a channel 22½ miles across at its narrowest part. It is the largest coralline island on the African coast, being 54 miles long by about 15 broad and having an area of 640 square miles.

To the north-east, at a distance of some 30 miles lies the Island of Pemba in 5° S. latitude. It is smaller than Zanzibar, being 40 miles long by about 10 broad, and having an area of 380 square miles.

In the year 1890 the supremacy of British interests in the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba was recognized by France and Germany, and they were declared a British Protectorate in accordance with conventions by which Great Britain waived all claims to Madagascar in favour of France, and ceded Heligoland to Germany.

In 1891 a regular Government was constituted with a British representative as First Minister. In 1906, the Imperial Government assumed more direct control over the Protectorate and reorganized the Government. In 1911 Seyyid Ali abdicated the throne and was succeeded by the present ruler, Seyyid Khalifa bin Harub. On 1st July, 1913, the control of the Protectorate was transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office; legal effect being given to the change of administration in the following year.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, 1920.

His Highness the Sultan, Seyyid Khalifa bin Harub, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., paid his second official visit to Pemba since his accession in 1911, and was received with acclamation by all sections of the population of that Island.

During the first six months of the year the British Resident, Major F. B. Pearce, C.M.G., acted as High Commissioner. Major-General Sir Edward Northey, K.C.M.G., C.B., returned to Kenya Colony on the 2nd July, and resumed duty as High Commissioner.

NOTE.—Maps will be found in the Report for 1914, No. 843 [Cd. 7622-34.]

The Administration has been severely handicapped by the transfer to other Dependencies of many of its senior and experienced administrative officers, but during 1920 appointments were made to most of the vacancies in the European staff of the Government which had remained vacant during the years of war, and at the end of the year only a few of the posts held by European officers remained unfilled.

With the exception of the new Harbour Works, the purpose of which was explained in last year's report, no Public Works of importance were undertaken during the year. A sum of £8,000 was expended on the maintenance of town and country roads, and £14,000 on various minor works including the maintenance of Government buildings.

The scheme of Harbour improvement was proceeded with during the year and up to the end of 1920 the sum of £110,000 has been expended. This includes the cost of materials on order and £15,000 actually spent on constructional work.

The building of the Peace Memorial to which reference was made in the Annual Report for 1919 was proceeded with during the year. The total sum available for this purpose amounts to Rs. 110,000, of which one half had been expended up to the end of the year.

Native cultivation and production of various staple food-stuffs for local consumption have continued to increase and large tracts of land which were formerly waste have been brought under cultivation. Native energies in this direction have been stimulated by the prevailing high prices of imported rice and other commodities consequent upon the prohibition of export of rice from India, but it is doubtful whether, when the cost of imported native foodstuffs returns to a more normal level, the native will find it advantageous to maintain these areas in cultivation.

With a view to the improvement of indigenous stock, a herd of Montgomery cattle specially selected by the Government of the Punjab was imported during the year and will be maintained at the expense of the Government for the benefit of local cattle owners.

During the year steps were taken to obtain analyses of the various waters in Zanzibar Island, the services of the Government Analyst of Kenya Colony being secured for this purpose. The reports showed that the source from which the town supply is obtained was free from all forms of contamination and that the quality of the water was excellent.

No census of the population of the Protectorate has been taken since the publication of the Annual General Report for 1919 (No. 1052), and no later statistics are available. The last Census (1910) showed that the population of Zanzibar and Pemba was 196,733, but it is now generally presumed to be considerably in excess of that figure.

With the exception of a slight epidemic of influenza of a mild type in November the Protectorate has been free from epidemic diseases during the year. Among the native and Indian population there were 41 deaths from tuberculosis, 16 from malaria, nine from dysentery, and one each from small-pox and cerebro-spinal meningitis. These statistics show no appreciable difference from those of the previous year.

Two Diesel engines were installed by Government in 1919, but the greatly increased consumption of electricity has made it advisable to add a third and more powerful engine. This engine has been placed on order and will be installed during the coming year.

III.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

(i) *Revenue and Expenditure.*

The following table shows the Revenue and Expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years :—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.
	£		£
1916	281,162	..	280,203
1917	297,746	..	259,961
1918	387,371	..	271,874
1919	407,505	..	323,418
1920	330,212	..	403,808

(ii) *Taxation.*

No new taxation was imposed during the year and no change of any importance was made in existing taxation.

(iii) *Currency.*

In consequence of the large importation of British sovereigns which had been brought into the Protectorate for speculative exchange purposes demonetization became necessary, and this step was taken without notice on 5th July. The sovereign had been legal tender in the Protectorate at the rate of Rs. 15 per £1 since 11th March, 1908.

The silver rupee of British India, of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, is the standard coin of the Protectorate.

All other silver coins of British India of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, are legal tender for the payment of an amount not exceeding Rs. 5.

Seyyidieh copper pice are legal tender at the rate of 64 pice to one rupee for the payment of an amount not exceeding one rupee.

There is a Government note issue of the denominations, Rs. 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500. The value of notes in circulation on 31st December amounted to Rs. 3,557,490. The security

held against the issue consists of cash to the approximate sum of 68 per cent. and of War Bonds and Colonial Government Securities to the approximate amount of 32 per cent. of the value of notes in circulation.

(iv) *Assets and Liabilities.*

	£
Balance of Assets on 31st December, 1919	575,994
Deficit, 1920	73,596
<hr/>	
Balance of Assets on 31st December, 1920	502,398
Loan to Kenya Colony and Protectorate	200,000

(v) *Public Debt.*

The Public Debt amounts to £100,000 in 3 per cent. debentures, which were issued to the British Public in 1899 under authority of the Loan Decree, 1899. 2½ per cent. of the nominal value of the issue is appropriated annually from general revenue to a sinking fund for the extinction of the debt. The amount at the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December, was £63,913, which is invested in War Loan and Colonial Government Securities.

IV.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(i) *Imports and Exports.*

The total imports during the year (including manufactured goods from Europe, South Africa, America and raw materials from the mainland) amounted to Rs. 27,380,947, being a decrease on 1919 of Rs. 1,631,588 or 5·62 per cent., due to a decrease in the quantity of raw cotton imported for re-exportation and in the quantity of cotton piece-goods of which large stocks had accumulated in 1919.

The total exports, which include manufactured goods re-exported for distribution in neighbouring territories, re-exports of African produce collected from mainland ports and exports of cloves and other domestic produce amounted to Rs. 30,111,795, being a decrease of Rs. 6,548,373 or 17·83 per cent., which is accounted for by a late clove harvest, a decrease in the quantity of copra and a decrease in the quantity of raw cotton re-exported.

The principal countries trading with this Protectorate are India and Burma 27 per cent., Tanganyika 21 per cent., United Kingdom 15 per cent., Kenya Protectorate 10 per cent., and France 5 per cent.

The principal imports were cotton piece-goods Rs. 6,317,450, rice and grains Rs. 4,154,499, and copra Rs. 1,670,075.

The principal exports (including re-exports) were cotton piece-goods Rs. 6,995,517, cloves Rs. 5,858,377, and copra Rs. 5,354,338.

The average annual stock of goods in transit increased from Rs. 501,693 in 1915 to Rs. 11,266,217 in 1919, and in 1920 was valued at Rs. 8,704,399.

The trade between Protectorate Ports as indicated by the inward and outward returns for the port of Zanzibar amounted to Rs. 6,680,851 inward and Rs. 3,615,179 outward, being a decrease of 30 per cent. on 1919.

(ii) *Agricultural Industries.*

Cloves.—A history of this industry has been given in previous reports.

The estimate of the area under cloves, namely 52,000 acres, with some 4½ million trees was made some seven or eight years ago. Since then some plantations have been devastated by fire and disease; and the area and the stocks decrease annually.

No plantings of any extent were effected save by the Government on its own plantations. The patches which are planted up each year by natives in the Island of Pemba are insignificant.

The majority of plantation-owners are heavily involved in debt and an actuarial examination of their financial position would undoubtedly disclose the fact that the greater number are bankrupt.

The Indian money-lender, who lives in the town, does not as a rule foreclose, preferring to allow the Arab to remain on his plantation in a semi-dependent position.

This state of affairs militates against the quasi-owner taking any interest in his property, which consequently receives the minimum of cultivation and attention.

A striking sign of the lack of interest taken by Arabs in their plantation-estates is shown by the increasingly common custom of leasing the annual clove-crop. Several clove-plantations are taken under this system by one man, who collects such labour as he can and hurries his gang from plantation to plantation, stripping the trees of their branches so that the crop of each may be harvested in the shortest possible time.

As regards labour, the difficulties of cultivation labour have been largely overcome by the visits of mainlanders who are good weeders. The chief difficulty now is the payment of these men by the plantation-owner.

The question of labour for the harvest is always one which must engage the most earnest and sympathetic attention of the Government. The harvest labourers are very carefully looked after by the Government which sees that the men are directed to the plantations where the crop is ready, and that the men obtain proper pay, lodging and facilities for obtaining food.

Medical attention is given as soon as possible in all cases of reported sickness and accident.

The financial position of the plantation-owner, especially in Pemba, is reflected in the sales of land. In Pemba it is impossible to sell a plantation for more than a nominal sum.

In Zanzibar the conditions have improved.

The average clove-crop may be taken at 400,000 of frasilas (35 lb.) per annum.

The yearly figures vary between 175,000 and 775,000 frasilas.

The figures for the Season 1919 to 1920 (1st July to 30th June) are :—

Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	93,847
Pemba	..	..	..	..	168,703
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>262,550</u>

The figures for the year are :—

Zanzibar	..	..	..	..	102,207
Pemba	..	..	..	..	124,472
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>226,679</u>

The minimum price of Zanzibar cloves in 1920 was Rs. 12 a frasila, the maximum, Rs. 32·25.

The price of Pemba cloves varies between Re. 1 to Rs. 2 below the above figures.

Copra.—The copra industry is in a more promising position than the clove industry. Many land-owners are ready to plant coconuts; and the area under this tree increases yearly. The raising of the crop presents much less difficulty than in the case of cloves.

The copra exports for the year were 18,850,826 lb., valued at Rs. 3,652,874, of which Pemba was responsible for 5,887,784 lb., valued at Rs. 914,726.

The figures for copra exports include copra imported from Mafia and Tanganyika Territory. Mafia copra is superior to Zanzibar copra and is imported for purposes of mixing.

Owing to this practice of bulking figures showing the actual amount of locally-grown copra exported are not available.

The maximum price of copra in 1920 was Rs. 7·50 per frasila, the minimum Rs. 3·50.

Chillies.—82,187 lb., valued at Rs. 27,813 were exported.

(iii) *Savings Bank and Banking Facilities.*

The National Bank of India, Limited, and the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, are the only Banks having branches in Zanzibar.

There were 1,135 depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank at the end of 1920. During the year the sums deposited amounted to £7,127, and the withdrawals to £8,188. The total amount standing to credit of depositors was £7,540, of which £5,000 were invested.

V.—LEGISLATION.

Apart from the publication of the "The Treaty of Peace Order, 1919," and of various Proclamations, Rules and Regulations dealing with matters arising out of the cessation of a state of war, 15 Decrees were promulgated during the year of which only "The Customs (Amendment) Decree" and "The Control of Arms and Ammunition Decree" call for comment. As regards the former measure repeated shortages at destination on cargoes loaded at Zanzibar created the suspicion which afterwards proved to be correct that by collusion between merchants, tally clerks and ships' employees short shipments were being made. The shipping companies approached the Government with a view to the introduction of control to prevent these malpractices and at the same time intimated that if the Government could not see their way to adopting the proposal they would be compelled in their own interests to require that all cargo for shipment should be assembled and handed over to the steamship agents on shore instead of being presented at the ship's side as is now done. A scheme of this nature would have created an undesirable monopoly in lighterage. The amendments introduced in the above circumstances were based upon provisions contained in the East Africa Customs Ordinance, 1910. The Control of Arms and Ammunition Decree was promulgated with a view to consolidating the provisions of the Convention signed at Saint Germain-en-Laye in September, 1919, with the local law on the same subject.

VI.—EDUCATION.

A Commission representative of the various interests was appointed during the year to enquire into the general question of Education in the Protectorate. In the course of their enquiry the Commission examined witnesses representative of all communities and of all important interests. The Report of the Commission is now being considered by the Government.

No new schools were opened during the year and the general policy outlined in last year's report has been followed. The appointment of a European Headmaster to the Government Central School has had an appreciable effect on the attendance at the school and its general efficiency.

VII.—CLIMATE.

The average annual rainfall amounts approximately to 58 ins. in Zanzibar and 83 ins. in Pemba. In 1920 the rainfall was considerably below the average, 44 ins. being recorded in Zanzibar Town and 47 ins. at Mkokotoni in the North of the Island. In Pemba 69 ins. fell. The average mean temperature was, for Zanzibar, maximum 84·1, minimum 77·0, and for Pemba, maximum 85·8, minimum 77·0.

The climatic conditions in Zanzibar although exceedingly trying in the hot season which lasts from November to March are not necessarily unfavourable to Europeans, provided that periods of residence do not exceed two years without change to a cold climate.

VIII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(i) *Shipping.*

The total number of ocean-going vessels that entered this port during the year 1920 was 172, with a gross tonnage of 926,753; compared with 104 ships, with a tonnage of 440,737 in 1919.

Coasting vessels entered, 163, gross tonnage 100,810; as compared with 97 ships, and 59,734 gross tons in 1919.

The total number of dhows entered during 1920 was 4,876 with a tonnage of 91,243 and cleared, 4,865, with a tonnage of 90,990; as compared with 4,714 dhows with a tonnage of 82,334 entered, and 4,751 dhows with a tonnage of 83,584 cleared in 1919.

The total number of vessels inclusive of dhows entered during 1920 was 5,200 and the total tonnage was 1,118,806.

A weekly service between Zanzibar and Dar-es-Salaam, and also between Zanzibar, Pemba and Mombassa was maintained during 10 months of the year by the Government steamers "Cupid" and "Khalifa." Towards the end of the year this service was confined to Pemba ports to meet the demands of the clove harvest.

In 1920 passenger and cargo facilities between Zanzibar and Europe greatly improved.

A monthly service between Zanzibar and the United Kingdom, comprising sailings alternately via the Cape and via the Suez Canal, was maintained by the Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited.

The British India Steam Navigation Company, Limited, resumed their pre-war monthly service from London to South-East Africa via Zanzibar. This company also ran a fortnightly service between Bombay and Durban via Zanzibar.

Steamers of the Clan-Ellerman-Harrison Line, of the Messageries Maritimes, of the Portuguese Government, of the Maritima Italiana, and of the Scandinavia East Africa Line made Zanzibar a port of call for their ships on the East Africa Lines.

The steamer "Lord Milner" owned by the Administration of the Tanganyika Territory inaugurated a coastal service between Mombasa, Zanzibar and all ports in the Tanganyika Territory.

Messrs. Cowasji Dinshaw and Brothers have provided a fortnightly service between Zanzibar and Kismayu, extended occasionally to the Benadir Ports and to Aden.

A small barque and four schooners have carried on a diminutive sugar trade between this Island and Mauritius.

(ii) *Roads.*

Work on the Chake Chake to Wesha Road, to which reference was made in the last Report, was discontinued pending consideration of a general scheme of road construction in Pemba. The present idea is to construct a main line of communication between north and south through the principal clove plantation areas and to link up this road with the principal ports whence produce is shipped. The preliminary survey is in progress. By these means it is hoped to overcome the difficulties of communication which have so handicapped Pemba growers and traders in the past. The importance of this scheme will be more readily understood when it is recalled that Pemba Island produces three quarters of the Protectorate's total output of cloves. It is anticipated moreover, that by improving the internal means of communication in that Island a remedy will be found for the present inferior quality of its produce when it reaches the Zanzibar market.

(iii) *Postal.*

The total estimated number of articles dealt with by the Post Office during the year was 637,729, compared with 565,648 in 1919. Foreign articles accounted for 534,401, compared with 458,122, inland articles 93,405, compared with 87,683, and transit articles 9,923, compared with 19,843. Undelivered articles amounted to 3,195 against 2,341 in the previous year, of which 1,544 were returned to Zanzibar and 1,651 to places abroad.

Customs duty amounting to £2,833 was collected on parcels. 336 vessels arrived and 284 departed with mails, the figures for the previous year being 260 and 245 respectively. The value of Money Orders issued was £86,504 against £114,387, and paid £55,157 against £88,098. The value of British Postal Orders sold was £556 and cashed £180. The revenue of the Post Office including interest on Savings Bank Investments amounted to £5,205.

(iv) *Telegraph.*

The erection of a new wireless telegraph station within the town area to replace the old station situated some miles from the town was begun early in November and will be brought into use in 1921. This new installation includes a single latticed steel mast 200 ft. in height, which will give an effective daylight range of 600 miles. This range will, under favourable conditions, be more than doubled at night.

JOHN H. SINCLAIR.

Chief Secretary to the Government.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1054	Uganda	1918-1919
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

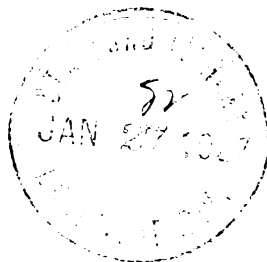
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1092.

CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917-18 see No. 1003.)



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No. 1092.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR
YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER

GEOGRAPHICAL.

The Cayman Islands consist of three small islands in the Caribbean Sea lying North West of Jamaica at mid-way between that island and the South-western end of Cuba. Sixty miles intervene between Grand Cayman and Cuba and ten miles east of the latter is Cayman Brac. The islands lie between 79° 83' and 81° 30' west longitude and 19° 20th parallels of north latitude. Grand Cayman, the largest of the islands, is 17 miles in length from east to west and 5 miles in width at the east end and seven at the west. The highest point of the island is more than fifty feet above the surrounding sea. Cayman Brac is 11 miles long by one and a quarter mile wide. Traversing its length from east to west is a low ridge of rock with precipitous sides, 150 feet high at the east end and sloping to the general level a few feet above the western end. Water-worn caverns are noticed along the entire length of this ridge, locally called the bluff, showing the lowland surrounding the base, much the smaller than the island's area, has been more recently elevated above the sea. Little Cayman, the smallest of the group, is flat and is surrounded by a sand ridge above the surrounding ocean. There are many small lying cays or reefs. The 100 fathom ocean depth closely approaches the islands.

HISTORICAL.

The islands were discovered by Columbus on the 10th September 1503, but were not occupied by the Spaniards. They were called Las Tortugas, on account of the number of turtle in the surrounding waters. The present name is supposed to be derived from "caiman"—alligator—this animal being at one time very numerous in the smaller islands. Settlement was introduced from Jamaica in the first half of the 18th century; but many of the present inhabitants bear the surnames of British seamen wrecked either in the islands or on the neighbouring coasts of Cuba who remained domiciled in the islands.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 879; [Cd. 8172-5].

is included a sum of £1,000 for the erection in the near future of a Peace Memorial.

On review, the balance of assets included £3,524 in the Jamaica Money Order Account, and liabilities were made up of £75 5s. 11d. due depositors £1,000 set apart in the Public. There is no Public

CULTURE AND

in the last five

Exports.

£
1,810
566
169
29
4

k's-bill

1928

15,617

No. 1092.

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL
YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1919.*

GEOGRAPHICAL.

The Cayman Islands consist of three small islands in the Caribbean Sea lying North West of Jamaica and approximately mid-way between that island and the South-west coast of Cuba. Sixty miles intervene between Grand Cayman and Little Cayman, and ten miles east of the latter is Cayman Brac. The islands lie between 79·83 and 81·30 west longitude and the 19th and 20th parallels of north latitude. Grand Cayman, the largest of the islands, is 17 miles in length from east to west, four miles in width at the east end and seven at the west. No part of the island is more than fifty feet above the surrounding ocean. Cayman Brac is 11 miles long by one and a quarter miles at its widest. Traversing its length from east to west is a central ridge of rock with precipitous sides, 150 feet high at the eastern end and sloping to the general level a few feet above the sea at the western end. Water-worn caverns are noticed along the entire length of this ridge, locally called the bluff, showing that the lowland surrounding the base, much the smaller part of the island's area, has been more recently elevated above the sea. Little Cayman, the smallest of the group, is flat and is largely a sand ridge above the surrounding ocean. There are no out-lying cays or reefs. The 100 fathom ocean depth closely encircles the islands.

HISTORICAL.

The islands were discovered by Columbus on the 10th May, 1503, but were not occupied by the Spaniards. They were first called Las Tortugas, on account of the number of turtle in the surrounding waters. The present name is supposed to be derived from "caiman"—alligator—this animal being at one time numerous in the smaller islands. Settlement flowed from Jamaica in the first half of the 18th century; but many of the present inhabitants bear the surnames of British seamen wrecked either in the islands or on the neighbouring coasts of Cuba who remained domiciled in the islands.

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15, No. 879; [Cd. 8172-5].

CONSTITUTION.

In the days of early settlement public affairs were managed by the Justices of the Peace appointed by the Governor of Jamaica acting with and under the direction of a locally elected "Governor." To this body elected vestrymen were subsequently added, and in 1833 a Custos was commissioned. In 1863 an Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament (26 and 27 Victoria, chapter 31) recognizing the existence of Acts and Resolutions passed by the local body and validating such as should be afterwards assented to by the Governor of Jamaica. Under this authority, the Justices and Vestry therein mentioned revised the local enactments, and twenty Acts, passed at various times between 2nd January, 1832 and 1st July, 1864, were submitted to Governor Eyre of Jamaica, and signed by him in assent on the 23rd March, 1865. Under the provisions of Jamaica Law 24 of 1898, as amended by Law 33 of 1920, the Governor of Jamaica has power to appoint a Commissioner to administer the affairs of the Dependency. The Commissioner performs the duties of Collector-General and Treasurer and presides in the Grand Court, where, when sitting alone, he has the power of three Justices of the Peace.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The commercial and social life of the islands appear to have been little disturbed by the world war, but in the period under review these remote communities became more and more affected by influences from the outside. United States gold and notes, which largely constituted the circulating medium, rapidly disappeared, and the rise in the price of food and other necessities in America upset business arrangements.

Emigration and Immigration.

There is no immigration, but emigration to the southern ports of the United States, while not great, is steady. Labourers find employment in Cuba, but return to their homes about twice a year.

Public Health and Sanitation.

The health of the people is generally good. The culex mosquito is an intolerable pest and occasions a restriction of proper ventilation in dwellings, especially in the summer time and at night. There are no anopheles and consequently no malarial fevers other than the imported. By close observation of all arrivals from abroad and the isolation of all suspected cases, the influenza from which so many communities suffered was kept out of the Dependency.

Vital Statistics.

The census of 1911 showed a total population of 5,564. Of these 2,322 were white, or nearly so, 2,211 were returned as coloured and 1,031 as black. There were 148 births (27 per 1,000), 63 deaths (11 per 1,000) and 30 marriages in the year under review.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports reached a figure substantially above that of the year before, itself well above the average for the previous five years.

The imports from all countries—

In 1917-18 amounted to	..	..	..	£ 37,949
In 1918-19 amounted to	..	..	..	44,828

If one excepts the building of small vessels, which are occasionally sold abroad, the making of thatch rope from the leaves of a palm indigenous to the islands is practically the only local industry with an export. A total of 1,196,000 fathoms, valued at £1,836, was exported, 95 per cent. to Jamaica. Over 5000 lbs. of hawk's-bill-turtle-shell were taken in the waters of the Caribbean Sea and on sale, mainly in Jamaica, realized £7,000. Very few green turtles were taken in the waters of the Dependency and only an occasional schooner returns to the islands with the catch of a voyage. The fishing grounds are off the Nicaraguan coasts and the turtles caught there are sent from the kraals on outlying cays to the United States. Approximately 1,000 were taken in 1918-19 and realized at Key West an average of £2 each.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The Revenue and Expenditure in recent years have been :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>			<i>Expenditure.</i>		
			£			£
1913-14	5,047	..	..	3,012
1914-15	3,347	..	..	3,486
1915-16	2,891	..	..	3,558
1916-17	3,219	..	..	3,568
1917-18	4,423	..	..	5,162
Average of 5 years	3,785	..	..	3,757
1918-19	5,520	..	..	4,837

The revenue is larger than in any previous year. Post Office (£2,650) contributed the larger part of the receipts, Customs (£2,310) and Licences and Internal Revenue (£495) coming next in order, and other sources show inconsiderable figures. The expenditure was much above the average and may be summarized in Departments, £2,013; Public Works, £1,779; and Other

Services, £1,645. In Public Works is included a sum of £1,000 transferred to a special fund for the erection in the near future of a new Court House and Town Hall as a Peace Memorial.

At the close of the year under review, the balance of assets stood at £3,796 2s. 7d. The assets included £3,524 in the Jamaica Treasury and £3,394 balance in Money Order Account, and amounted to £7,599 11s. 1d. The liabilities were made up of £29 deposits in the Local Treasury, £2,775 5s. 11d. due depositors in the Government Savings Bank, and £1,000 set apart in the Peace Memorial Fund, total £3,803 7s. 6d. There is no Public Debt.

ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY.

The value of imports has more than doubled in the last five years as is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Imports.			Exports.		
	£			£		
1914-15	17,346	..	..	1,810	..	..
1915-16	28,414	..	..	11,566	..	..
1916-17	29,108	..	..	8,169	..	..
1917-18	37,949	..	..	5,229	..	..
1918-19	44,828	..	..	11,324	..	..

The value of the exports depends on the catch of hawk's-bill turtle and the price of the shell in the open markets.

Shipping.

Georgetown, Grand Cayman, is a port of Registry, having on its register 52 small vessels built locally with an aggregate tonnage of 2,620 tons. Nine vessels with a total tonnage of 689 were launched and registered during the year.

No steamships, other than ships of the Imperial Navy, visited the Dependency in the year. The following table shows the total number and tonnage of sailing ships entered and cleared.

Nationality.	No. entered.	Tons.	No. cleared.	Tons.
British	163	8,912	161	8,830
Cuban	1	10	1	10
Honduran	3	74	4	103
Panamanian	2	92	1	46
American	25	6,160	27	6,628
Totals	194	15,248	194	15,617

Banking Facilities.

There are no commercial banks in the Dependency. The Post Office Money Order system is largely made use of both by residents in remittance for goods to be imported and by seamen, labourers and others abroad who forward their earnings for the maintenance of dependents in the islands. The orders issued in the Dependency amounted to £7,540, and the orders paid aggregated £10,067.

The depositors in the Government Savings Bank have increased to 46; the deposits for the year have been £2,330; and the withdrawals £1,461. The balance at the credit of the depositors at the end of the year amounted to £2,774. A sum of £1,500 has been invested in Imperial Loan Stock by the Crown Agents as trustees.

LEGISLATION.

There were eight enactments in the year, all but one being of purely local interest. Law 2 of 1919, The Cayman Islands Lighthouse Law 1919, provides for the erection and maintenance of a lighthouse on the eastern end of Grand Cayman. The light now established in consequence is visible in fair weather a distance of twelve miles and affords ample warning of approach to the off-shore reefs.

EDUCATION.

New legislation dealing with this important matter is now in train. A system of free and compulsory primary education is proposed at a cost not to exceed £1,500 per annum. While the majority of the schools are at present styled Government, only a small proportion of the maintenance is a public charge. Four buildings are, however, maintained, and grants amounting to £204 were distributed amongst five district teachers. The number of children returned as attending school is 635.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The rainfall for the twelve months amounted to 48·77 inches. May (9·96 in.) and September (8·10 in.) showing the heaviest precipitation. February (·67 in.) and March (·23 in.) were, as usual, the dry months. The temperature ranges from 80 to 90 degrees in the hot months, and from 70 to 80 degrees in the cooler, November to February inclusive. The islands enjoyed a freedom from hurricanes or severe gales which have in recent years done so much damage to growing crops. The climate is equable and generally good. The summer months, April to September, are rainy and hot, and the prevalence of mosquitoes (*culex fatigans*) makes screening or the closing of houses, or the use of smoke, obligatory. The indoor temperature is thus increased. In the months October to March there is little rain and cool N. and N.E. winds prevail.

COMMUNICATIONS.

There are neither railways nor canals within the Dependency. A carriage road extends the length of Cayman Brac and half the length of Grand Cayman. Horseback riding is the usual means of locomotion along bridle-paths which connect the several localities. Intercourse with the outside world is maintained by small trading schooners which voyage to Jamaica, Cuba, the Central American Republics and the Gulf ports of the United States.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Regular foreign mails are received only through Jamaica, and average 24 per annum. In mid-year, however, during July, August and September, there is seldom more than one mail. A period of forty-three days of isolation occurred in the year. In addition to the outgoing mails sent through Jamaica, sailings of vessels to Cuba and the Gulf ports of the United States are made available for the sending of correspondence abroad. Tri-weekly mails are maintained throughout Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac, but communication between these two islands continues to be infrequent and irregular. A telephone line between the towns on Grand Cayman was destroyed by hurricane in 1917. Steps are now being taken to reconstruct.

H. H. HUTCHINGS,
Commissioner.

Grand Cayman,
8th July, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1055	Malta	1919-1920
1056	Swaziland	"
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1093.

CYPRUS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1046.)



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No. 1093.

CYPRUS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geographical.

The Island of Cyprus, situated in the eastern Mediterranean between $34^{\circ} 33'$ and $35^{\circ} 41'$ N. latitude and between $32^{\circ} 20'$ and $34^{\circ} 35'$ E. longitude, is about 140 miles in greatest length from east to west, and about 40 miles in greatest breadth from north to south. A narrow range of limestone mountains with an average height of 2,000 feet, extends along the northern coast, and an extensive group of mountains, culminating in Mount Troodos, 6,406 feet above the sea, fills the south-western part of the Island. Between these ranges lies the fertile Messaoria plain.

Historical.

The early history of Cyprus is obscure. It was a centre of Ægean civilization two thousand years before our era, and Greek and Phœnician colonies were established there at a very early date. In the sixth century B.C. the Island was conquered by Egypt, and fifty years later was absorbed in the Persian Empire. The famous Evagoras, a native king, succeeded in the fifth century B.C. in raising Cyprus to a position of independence, but on his death it again fell to the power of Persia and in due course to Alexander the Great. At the division of Alexander's empire, Cyprus passed to Egypt, until in 58 B.C. it became a Roman province, falling, on the division of the Roman Empire, under the Byzantine emperor.

In 1184 A.D. the Governor of Cyprus, Isaac Commenus, revolted, and maintained his independence until in 1191, Richard Cœur de Lion of England, on his way to the Crusades, landed, and in a whirlwind campaign of a few weeks conquered the Island. Richard sold it to Guy de Lusignan, the "King of Jerusalem," and the Lusignan dynasty ruled the Island until 1489 A.D., although from 1373 to 1464 the Genoese republic exercised a

suzerainty over a part of the Kingdom. In 1489 Cyprus fell to the republic of Venice, who held it until it was wrested from them by the Turks in 1571, in the sultanate of Selim II.

In 1878 the Island passed under the administration of Great Britain, and, on the outbreak of war with Turkey in 1914, was annexed to the British Crown by Order in Council of the 5th November, 1914.

II. CLIMATIC AND METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

The climate of Cyprus is, generally speaking, temperate and healthy, though the excessive heat of the plains during the summer is trying to Europeans. The heat is, however, dry except on the coast, while the winters are cold and bracing. The mean temperature at Nicosia during the past fifteen years has been $65\cdot76^{\circ}$; during 1920 it was $64\cdot53^{\circ}$, or $1\cdot23^{\circ}$ below the average. The mean maximum temperature during the year was $77\cdot63^{\circ}$, and the mean minimum $54\cdot10^{\circ}$. The highest shade temperature in 1920 was 104° , and the lowest 30° , as compared with a maximum of 110° and a minimum of 26° during the fifteen years 1906–1921.

The average rainfall for the last ten years has been $20\cdot84$ in. per annum; at Nicosia during 1920 it was $18\cdot11$ in., while the mean for the whole Island was $19\cdot81$ in.

It is of interest to note that in August, 1920, the mean maximum temperature at Nicosia was greater than that at Cairo or Khartoum and only slightly less than that at Suez. The only exceptional meteorological phenomena recorded during the year 1920 were an unusual snowfall over the whole extent of the Island on the 23rd and 24th February, and a slight earthquake shock felt at Limassol about midnight on the 21st September.

Experience of the last few years inclines to show that the climate of Cyprus is slowly but surely changing. While the excessive heat in the plains still continues to prevail during midsummer, the winters tend to become colder and late rains to fall during May and June, or two months after the close of the normal rainy season. Both these two tendencies were remarked during the year.

III. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Cyprus is first and foremost a country of agriculturists or peasant farmers. As such its prosperity depends almost solely on its own natural products, and the success or failure of the harvest of any one year must be taken as the criterion of the Island's well-being. The harvest of 1920 was on the whole satisfactory, the Government tithes of 10 per cent. levied on cereals comparing favourably with those of an average year, *e.g.* the wheat tithe was the fourth best in the last ten years, the barley tithe somewhat above the average, and the vetches tithe the fourth best since the Occupation. The olive crop was one of the best on record and the caroub crop well up to the average.

As a result, prices of home produce commenced to fall and the poorest classes did not feel the pinch of post-war conditions so keenly as in the previous year. The general standard of living was high and the improvement in comfort, noticed in last year's report, continued to be marked. No fewer than 200 motor-cars have been imported into Cyprus during the two past years, and the means of communication throughout the Island compare favourably with those in any neighbouring country. Particular attention has been paid during the year to the maintenance and extension of the system of motor-roads, of which the Island may justly be proud.

Public Health and Vital Statistics.

Public Health in 1920 was again good and Cyprus once more enjoyed complete immunity from the various epidemic diseases prevalent in all neighbouring countries of the Levant and the Near East. Energetic quarantine measures were in force and every precaution was exercised to preserve this immunity. Cyprus is free also from rabies and its attendant hydrophobia. The regulations prohibiting the importation of dogs from any destination were strictly enforced during the year. A threatened outbreak of typhus, which was brought into the Island by the Russian refugees early in the year, was completely overcome by the month of June and all danger averted.

The prevailing diseases were, as in the previous year, those of the digestive and respiratory systems, influenza, malaria, diseases of the skin, rheumatism, and enteric fever. The measures instituted in 1913 by Sir Ronald Ross, K.C.B., are annually adopted in an active anti-malarial campaign under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. There was a partial recrudescence of malaria during the year, mainly affecting rural districts. This was due to the exceptionally heavy rains which fell abnormally late in the early summer. In consequence the "spleen rate" rose slightly to 7·5 per thousand, which, however, still compares well with that of 17·2 per thousand in 1913.

The population of Cyprus as shown in the preliminary return of the 1921 Census is 310,709, as compared with 274,180 at the 1911 Census, an increase of 36,600, or 131 per thousand. Of these 61,422 are Mohammedans in a ratio of roughly 1 to 4 to the Christian population, and are mainly resident in the towns. There has been a tendency for the Mohammedan population to decrease, due principally to a gradual return to Turkey and to the poverty of the Turkish villager in comparison with his Greek compatriot.

The remainder of the inhabitants are almost all Greek-Christian with some 10,000 Armenians and a few thousand Catholics and Maronites of French, Italian, and Syrian origin.

The total number of births registered during 1920 was 9,060, giving a rate of 28·7 per thousand on the population as against 9,276 in 1919, a rate of 29·8 per thousand.

The total number of deaths was 7,330, a rate of 23·2 per thousand, as against 5,769 per thousand in 1919, a rate of 18·5 per thousand. The natural increase of population was thus 1,730 as against 3,507 in the preceding year. The increase in mortality was due to the prevalence of an epidemic of influenza with its attendant complications, and to the increased prevalence of malaria following on late and heavy rains.

Languages.

The language of the country is a local dialect, often very corrupt, of Modern Greek. Osmanli Turkish, somewhat archaic and free from Persian and Arabic words, is spoken by the Moslems, who, however, as a general rule, are conversant with Greek. In a less degree English and French are spoken by the more educated classes. Arabic, Egyptian, or Syrian, is not generally spoken or understood.

Emigration : Immigration.

Emigration from Cyprus is principally directed to Egypt and the United States of America, but has been much limited during the past year by the stringent regulations restricting the entry into both these countries of immigrants of the purely emigrant class. Cypriots of this class are not permitted under local regulations to leave the Island unless upon promise of some definite employment and with sound guarantee. These measures have been rendered necessary owing to the large number of Cypriots who, having left Cyprus in search of lucrative employment abroad, have failed to find work and, becoming stranded, have had to be repatriated at public expense.

Immigration is normally small, but there has been a steady influx of immigrants, mainly Armenian or war refugees from Cilicia and the troubled parts of Asia Minor, by whom Cyprus is regarded as a sure haven of refuge. In the majority of cases these are well-to-do and self-supporting.

In the early part of the year about 1,500 Russian refugees from South Russia were brought to Cyprus and lodged in the late Turkish Prisoners-of-War Camp near Famagusta. A number of them left the Island at intervals throughout the year, the total number now remaining being less than 1,000.

In addition, in the early summer some 700 orphan Armenian children were brought from Adana by the agency of the Lord Mayor's Fund for Armenian Refugees in consequence of the disturbed conditions prevailing in Cilicia. They were accommodated in the Military Camp at Polemidia under the administration of the Committee of the Lord Mayor's Fund. At the close of the year under review they were still in Cyprus.

Labour.

Labour in Cyprus is on the whole plentiful, but wages have risen sharply during the War and post-war period. During

1920 unskilled labour was paid from 2s. to 3s. a day for males and from 1s. 6d. to 2s. for females.

Public Works.

As far as funds permitted a progressive programme of public works was put into execution during the year. A new hospital, the estimated cost of which is some £10,000, was commenced at Limassol. At Paphos and at Polis new Konaks, or Government offices, have been erected; at Nicosia five houses for Government officials were constructed, and others were purchased and repaired or converted into residences for Government officials.

Ancient Monuments.

As is but natural from its geographical situation, Cyprus is very rich in matters of archæological and antiquarian interest. Of the monuments and historic buildings still standing the most numerous, most beautiful and the best preserved are those of the Lusignan and Venetian eras of the thirteenth to the sixteenth century. There are also scattered throughout the Island remains of temples, tombs and cities of the classical and pre-classical periods.

The upkeep and supervision of the ancient monuments and historic buildings in Cyprus are in the charge of the Curator of Ancient Monuments and the number of historic buildings, ruins, etc., now scheduled as ancient monuments is 38.

During the year under review the principal work of reparation and upkeep has been Kyrenia Castle—the great monument of Cyprus mediæval history “in peril of the sea”—upon which a sum of £542 14s. 4cp. has been spent during the past autumn. This considerable expenditure was occasioned by the failure of the foundations at the west end of the north wall. This portion, which was an addition by the Venetians in the sixteenth century, is of importance as part of a very curious example of fortification of the period connected with the sally port and its internal defences on the north side of the Castle. It is to be hoped that the very substantial underpinning of this part on this occasion will ensure its preservation for centuries yet to come.

Another portion of the Castle precincts calling for substantial support during several past years has been attended to; this is the vault over the main entrance. This vault had been jeopardised by having some exceedingly thick walls built in a random manner over it in some dark period of history which were removed in 1912. The vault has now been grouted with cement and thoroughly repaired.

Minor matters of importance which were attended to included the fencing in of “Cobham’s Tomb,” Larnaca, and some small repairs to the entrances of the two Politico Tombs.

The famous three castles of the northern hills remain standing in their normal condition, protected a great deal by their inaccessibility, while the ruins of Bellapaise continue to be in a satisfactory state.

IV. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The local revenue of Cyprus collected during the year under review amounted to £668,518, which, with a grant-in-aid of £50,000, made a total of £718,518, by far the greatest on record despite the fact that tithes to the estimated value of £47,000 had not been brought to account on balancing returns. Tithes to the value of £13,000 in respect of 1918 were credited in the past year's accounts and so, by a more exact method of accounting, the local revenue for 1920 approximated very nearly to £700,000.

The expenditure amounted to £691,780, to which must be added a sum of £92,800 as the Cyprus share of the Turkish debt charge, making a total of £784,580. Corresponding figures for previous years are as follows :—

Year.	Revenue.	Grant-in-aid.	Total.	Expenditure.	Turkish Debt.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914-15	290,110	50,000	340,110	316,414	92,800	409,214
1915-16	363,692	50,000	413,692	294,318	92,800	487,118
1916-17	332,584	50,000	382,584	318,378	92,800	411,178
1917-18	498,460	50,000	548,460	382,599	92,800	475,399
1918-19	610,499	50,000	660,499	494,675	92,800	587,475
1919-20	602,927	50,000	652,927	485,400	92,800	578,200

Increases are observed particularly under Customs Receipts, due to increased tariff rates and to the abolition of many specific duties, and to the substitution therefor of an *ad valorem* duty on a 10 per cent. basis ; Port and Harbour Receipts, due to increased shipping ; and Postal Receipts, due to increased postal rates and a larger number of transactions.

Decreases are negligible, the large decrease in the receipts of the Agricultural Department of over £6,000 being accounted for by the fact that no contributions were made during the year from the Public Works Loan Fund, and the decrease under Fines and Forfeitures to the fact that fewer fines were inflicted by the Provost Marshals' Courts.

The increased expenditure is due in the main to the increase in the salaries of public officers and to the abnormal prices of goods and enhanced freight charges.

The collection of the taxes was again most satisfactory, there being practically no arrears.

The depreciation account on investments of the Reserve Fund and Savings Bank account, which stood at £37,138 on the 31st March, 1920, was reduced to £36,332, owing to a slight rise in the value of securities, and the depreciation account opened in respect of investments for the Note Security Fund, which stood at £24,000, now stands at £20,500.

The balance of Assets over Liabilities on the 31st March, 1921, was £159,915. A supplementary statement of Assets and Liabilities, which include certain arrears of revenue and certain liabilities of expenditure (Turkish Debt Charge in respect of 1920-21 and due on the 31st of July, 1921, and a sum of £25,000 on account of relief of distressed Cypriots abroad), gives a balance of Assets over Liabilities of approximately £125,000.

Currency notes of denominations £10, £5, £1, 10s., 5s., 2s., and 1s., were in circulation throughout the year. The emergency issue of 1s. notes made in 1919-20 to the value of £1,949 was withdrawn. The maximum amount of the currency note issue is still fixed at £700,000, and the maximum value of the notes actually current at any one time was £632,169. The value of notes in circulation on the 31st of March, 1921, was £526,539.

Banks.

The Imperial Ottoman Bank has branches in Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagusta, Limassol, and Paphos. The Bank of Athens has branches in Nicosia and Limassol. The Bank of Cyprus, established in 1912 under the provisions of the Ottoman Commercial Code, has its head office in Nicosia, with a branch at Limassol and agencies at Larnaca, Famagusta, Paphos, Kyrenia, and Morphou.

A Government Savings Bank was opened under Law 16 of 1900 on the 1st of January, 1903. Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum is allowed. The number of depositors on the 31st of March, 1921, was 296. Deposits during the year amounted to £18,000 and withdrawals £6,000; the balance in hand at the end of the year was £12,500.

V. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports of merchandise during the year was £2,068,756 as against £1,525,427 during 1919, an increase of £543,339. The following table shows the imports for each of the last three years under the main heads of classification :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco ..	224,862	433,275	661,907
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	59,853	107,620	128,651
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	728,867	984,532	1,243,851
Miscellaneous and unclassified ..	—	—	34,347
Total ..	£1,013,582	£1,525,427	£2,068,756

£4,828 worth of specie was also imported in 1920.

68·9 per cent of imports into Cyprus during 1920 were from the United Kingdom and British Possessions, Colonies and Protectorates, as against 81·2 per cent. of the imports of the previous year. Of other countries, Italy came first in 1920 with 6·4 per cent., France second with 5·5 per cent., and the United States of America third with 5·3 per cent.

The total value of exports from Cyprus in 1920 was £1,200,449, a decrease, as compared with the previous year, of £170,000. £210 worth of specie was also exported. No change in the general direction of export trade occurred, the order of precedence of various countries according to the value of exports sent to them being the same as in 1918 and 1919. The figures for 1920 were :—

	£
1. British possessions, colonies and protectorates	434,550
2. United Kingdom	257,449
3. Greece	132,550
4. France	55,349
5. Italy	39,814
6. United States of America	36,298
7. All other countries	244,439

The excess of the value of imports over exports, amounting to some £800,000 during the year, is attributable mainly to the trade revival following on the depression of the war period, and to merchants replenishing somewhat lavishly their depleted stocks with the increased facilities of supply. In addition, the export trade was handicapped to a considerable extent by the restrictions on the exportation of foodstuffs, livestock, and other commodities, restrictions which it has now been found possible to remove to a great extent.

The tendency noticed in 1919 for the export trade with the United Kingdom to increase in a greater proportion than the total growth of exports was again remarked in 1920.

Shipping.

Two hundred and twelve steamships and 594 sailing-vessels engaged in foreign trade called at Cyprus ports, chiefly at Famagusta, Limassol, and Larnaca, during the year.

In the coasting trade over 1,300 sailing-vessels worked between the ports and anchorages of the Island.

Agriculture.

Cyprus is essentially an agricultural country and the majority of the population consists of peasant proprietors farming their own land. Farms (chiftliks) on a larger scale exist, but it is on the peasant proprietor that the agricultural prosperity of the Island mainly depends. About one-half of the total area of the Island is under cultivation, and one-fourth of the remainder is susceptible of cultivation. A model farm has been established and maintained for many years at Athalassa by the Government with dependent stud stables in various district centres. There is a Government

Agricultural school at Nicosia which was established with the object of training young peasants in modern agricultural methods and thus gradually raising the standard of agriculture in each village.

The outstanding feature of the year 1920 was the phenomenal yield of olives and olive-oil. The year will long be remembered in the Island as a record, the olive crop having far surpassed anything within the memory of living Cypriots. The quantity of oil produced was without precedent and is extremely difficult to estimate to any degree of accuracy. It was calculated, however, that some 19,000,000 okes (about 24,000 tons) of olives were gathered and 9,000,000 okes (about 2,000,000 gallons) of oil produced. This is more than twice the amount of any recorded crop or production during the past decade.

The cereal harvest was good and high prices were generally obtained. The caroub crop was also plentiful and up to the average.

The fruit trade has again been brisk with Egypt and all usual varieties of fruit bore well.

An outbreak of vine disease, *peronospora viticola*, attacked the vineyards in the Paphos district but active measures were taken to combat the disease, which at one time threatened to spread owing to the apathy or ignorance of the cultivators.

A small wine-making laboratory has been added to the buildings of the Agricultural Departmental Headquarters at Nicosia. This is in course of equipment and will shortly be ready for instructional and demonstrational purposes.

There has again been a lively demand for agricultural machinery and the Agricultural Department has imported motor tractors and ploughs, harrows and planters which have been very popular, and have been hired out to farmers throughout the sowing season. A corn-dressing machine was also imported and has been continuously on hire, giving great satisfaction. Several farmers have expressed their desire and intention to purchase implements and have only been deterred by the high prices at present prevailing.

A new departure this year has been a course of practical instruction by officials of the Agricultural Department in wine-making at the principal centres of the wine-producing districts of Limassol and Paphos. Practical demonstrations, illustrated by lantern slides, have been given of vine diseases and their effects on wine, and the use of improved apparatus has been tested by actual experiment. These lectures have been well attended and it is hoped that they will be productive of much benefit to viticulturists and wine manufacturers. The evils of adulteration, which are patent to all the more intelligent producers, are gradually becoming obvious to all, and it is hoped that Cyprus wines will in the near future show a marked improvement in quality.

Experiments have been made in the extracting of cotton seed-oil and in the manufacture of cotton-cake, and some good samples have been obtained. One private firm is engaged on trials in producing sesame-oil, and another in the manufacture of margarine, the main ingredient of which is soy-bean oil, more commonly known as "corn-oil." Extension in this direction is confidently anticipated.

One hundred tons of Irish seed potatoes were imported by merchants during the year. The cultivation of monkey-nuts was carried on on an increased scale.

Two varieties of Egyptian cotton, "Zagora" and "Ashmouni," introduced during the year were not successful. This may have been due to late arrival and sowing of the seed. A further trial will be made this season. Continued experiments in the production of Perilla seed-oil were carried out with favourable results; the seed, which resembles, but is inferior to, linseed, yields a valuable drying oil which is utilised in the paint and varnish industries.

Gooseberry and raspberry plants were imported from England and have been planted under the care of the Agricultural Department in school gardens in the hill villages; they are doing well. Almond-tree planting has increased, especially in the Paphos district.

Sugar-beet grown in Cyprus compares favourably with that of average quality grown elsewhere and is very similar in composition to Egyptian-grown beet. Samples were grown and sent to Egypt for analysis during the year.

Sericulture.

Silk-worm rearing is an important industry in the Island and the white mulberry-tree is grown for the breeding of silk-worms. Nicosia, Paphos and Karpass are the principal centres; nearly all the silk cocoons are exported, mainly to France. During the year two sericultural stations were in operation for instructional purposes, one at Nicosia and one at Morphou. The cocoons produced were the finest for many years and the prospects of development of the industry in Cyprus were distinctly encouraging.

Essential oil was distilled from *Myrophora Stoechas*, and calcium citrate was manufactured from Cyprus lemons. Samples have been prepared for shipment to England for commercial valuation. A seed-testing apparatus was added during the year to the Research Laboratory of the Agricultural Department and 62 samples of different seeds were examined for germination. Origanum oil is produced in Cyprus and an encouraging report was received on specimens submitted to the Imperial Institute for analysis.

"Arbor" day was again celebrated and several thousand trees were planted in over 60 school gardens.

An active campaign has been conducted during the year against agricultural pests and good results have been achieved. Besides the outbreak of the vine disease referred to in a preceding section, the potato disease, *Lita Solanella*, again made its appearance, but in a less severe form than in the previous year. The systematic campaign that has been waged against it for the past three seasons met with an increased measure of success, and there is reason to believe that the disease is now well in hand. Steps were taken for the fourth year in succession to combat the Codlin Moth (*Carpocapsa pomonella*) and the almond pest (*Eurydoma amygdalis*). The usual awards were paid during the year for the destruction of hornets and rats and collection of sparrows' eggs.

Livestock.

The improvement of livestock in Cyprus continued to engage the close attention of the Government, and a Stock Committee has been formed to advise generally concerning the breeding of stock. During the year a thoroughbred and a Dale pony stallion, several Shorthorn and Devon bulls and heifers, boars, and poultry were purchased from England for service at the Government farm and stud stables. The number of animals served at the Government Stock Farm at Athalassa was as follows:—151 mares, 46 donkeys, 138 cows, and 55 sheep.

Outbreaks of anthrax, goat, and sheep pox and quarter-ill occurred during the year. As a preventive measure some 700 animals were inoculated against anthrax, 2,500 against goat and sheep pox, and 150 against quarter-ill.

Other Industries.

There are few industries in Cyprus at all comparable with agriculture for importance. Wine-making is a well-established and growing industry in the Limassol and Paphos districts. During the year, 1,250,000 gallons of wine were exported, principally to Egypt, of a value of £133,000, or about the same amount as was exported in 1919. 80,000 gallons of spirits were exported, a decrease on the preceding period. The increase in the export of terra umbra, alluded to in last year's report, was well maintained, and some 8,000 tons, to a value of £28,000, were exported, principally to the United States of America and Italy, as compared with 2,700 tons valued at £6,000 in 1919. Other exports of Island produce include silk and cotton manufactures, earthenware bricks, gypsum, asbestos, and sumac leaves.

Land.

The tenure of land in Cyprus is governed by the Ottoman Land Law. Agricultural land in general (Arazi Mirie) is held by a title deed (Qochan), which is issued by the Land Registry Office, the real ownership remaining with the State. It can be alienated by sale, in which case a new title deed is issued, and

the transaction registered by the Land Registry Office. It is transmissible by inheritance within certain specified degrees of relationship, but cannot be transmitted by will. If it becomes vacant by failure of heirs, it escheats to the State (mahlul).

Buildings, trees, gardens, vineyards, and wild grafted trees which have been granted are known as mulk (Arazi Memluke), and included in this category are building sites within or near a town or village. Immovable property held under this tenure belongs in full to the owner, is alienated and inherited like movable property, and the provisions of the land code do not apply to it.

Unowned or waste land is known as Hali (Arazi Mevat). This may, with permission of the Government and on payment of certain fees representing its equivalent value, be taken up and cultivated, the ownership, as in the case of Arazi Mirie, remaining with the State. Land left uncultivated for certain periods can be forfeited.

The charges on Arazi Mirie are (i) Verghi Kimat, a land tax at the rate of four per thousand, (ii) tithes of the produce of the land, and (iii) a fee on transfer by sale or inheritance.

Prices of land vary according to its adaptation to certain crops, its means of irrigation and its position in relation to towns and villages. Prices, therefore, vary from a few shillings per donum (one-third of an acre) to £30 or £40, while land in the vicinity of towns suitable for building sites may fetch over £200 a donum. The average size of a plot of land is about 1½ acres.

During the year under review 277 parcels of Hali (waste) land, comprising 1,319 donums (440 acres), were granted by Government for a payment of £521, the full estimated value being at an average price of 7s. 8cp. the donum (£1 3s. 6cp. the acre). In the same year 55 parcels of Hali (waste) land, comprising 572 donums (191 acres) were sold at auction, realising £412, an average price of 14s. 3cp. a donum (£2 3s. 0cp. the acre).

VI. INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Forests.

Cyprus possesses valuable resources in its forests, for which, at one time, it was famous. During the Turkish administration it was practically denuded of its forests, but since the British occupation in 1878 there has been a considerable improvement, and artificial reforestation has been carried out as far as funds permitted. During the late War the forests of Cyprus rendered great service to the Allied Armies in Egypt and Palestine in supplying them with a large proportion of their needs in the way of timber and fuel.

In the course of the year under review some 14,000 tons of firewood were delivered to the military authorities, and 4,000 tons were extracted for other purposes, a total of 18,000 tons as against 24,000 tons in 1919.

There was also a great demand for timber throughout the year, and in addition to the usual supplies to Government departments, such as the Railway and the Public Works, and to the Military authorities and to the general public, the Forest Department supplied timber to local Mining Companies.

The forest revenue collected during the year amounted to £90,200 as compared with £91,400 in 1919.

The number of forest fires during the year was reduced to almost half of those that occurred during the preceding period, viz., 57 as against 104. Some 30,000 pine-trees were burnt within the 3,600 acres of State Forest affected. The upkeep and extension of forest fire-paths was maintained during the year.

The reafforestation campaign was intensified principally in the Limassol district, and about double the number of seedlings were planted out as compared with the previous season.

Experiments in destructive distillation of forest produce for the extraction of pyroligneous acid were continued. A quantity of origanum oil shipped to London was favourably reported on and sold at a good price.

Mines.

There were signs during the year under review of increased activity and interest in Cyprus mining. Numerous enquiries were received from abroad and a number of consulting mining engineers representing influential companies and syndicates visited the Island. Generally the prospects seem favourably for the development of the Island's mineral resources.

The Cyprus Mines Corporation at Skouriotissa has been actively engaged in the installation of plant; completion of shipping facilities, and the organization of workings preparatory to intensive mining operations on a considerable scale. Some 2,000 tons of cupriferous pyrites were extracted during the year.

The rich asbestos mines at Amiandos on Troodos have been worked throughout the year on a more extended scale and regular shipments of fibre have been made to Switzerland and Trieste. Considerable development is to be anticipated in this direction.

The Lymni Mining Company have recommenced prospecting operations and experimental workings on their concession in the Paphos district where iron and copper pyrites are to be found.

Sponge Fishing.

The sponge fisheries in the territorial waters of Cyprus are fished almost exclusively by fishermen from the Greek islands. Attempts were made in 1903 and the following years to train

Cypriots in this industry, but without success. The fisheries are supervised by the Government Inspector of Fisheries who works the monopoly by sub-letting the right to fish.

During the year 1920 there was a noticeable slump in this industry due principally to the disturbed conditions prevailing in the Near East generally. Only two boats were licensed to fish, and the take was some 11,000 sponges, weighing about 70 lb.

VII. LEGISLATION.

Thirty bills were brought before the Legislative Council during its session of 1920, of which all but one were passed and became laws. The majority of these are of purely local interest, dealing with the appropriation of moneys and the establishment of Clearing Offices for Enemy Debts, etc.

Law III.—To Amend the Pensions Laws, provides that a public officer in the service of the Government of Cyprus shall retire on attaining the age of 60 years unless his period of service is extended by the High Commissioner with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Law IV.—Provides for the granting of patents and for the appointment of a Registrar of Patents following in the main the procedure in vogue in the United Kingdom.

Law X.—To limit the number of ownerless dogs, provides for the registration of dogs, and the destruction of all dogs not found wearing the prescribed badge of registration.

Law XIII.—To Amend the Customs, Excise and Revenue Law, provides for preferential rates on import dues on goods shown to be consigned from, and grown, produced or manufactured within the British Empire.

Law XIV.—To Regulate the registration of firearms, prohibits the importation of rifles into Cyprus and provides for the registration of all firearms in the Island within six months of its coming into force.

Law XXII.—To Regulate and Control the Sanitation of the Summer Camp on Mount Troodos, delimits an area on Mount Troodos, to be called the Troodos Sanitary Area, and provides for the constitution of a Health Board to supervise sanitation within the area and to make regulations, with the approval of the High Commissioner for carrying out the provisions of the Law.

Law XXIII.—To Amend the Law relating to Customs, Excise and Revenue, is perhaps the most important legislative measure of the year. Under this law a new scale of customs duties, both export and import, with an increased tariff at *ad valorem* rates, was brought into force as from the 11th of September, 1920. The result has been a great increase in Customs revenue without the imposition of any appreciable burden on either consumers, producers or exporters.

Law XXIV.—To Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to the establishment and management of Elementary Schools in Cyprus, other than Greek-Christian Schools, is also a measure of some moment. Under the provisions of the Law the management of the schools other than Greek-Christian is brought under the control of a Central Education Board for each community, presided over, in each instance, by the Chief Secretary to Government and composed of the leading, or elected, members of the community and the Chief Inspector of Schools. The function of these Boards is to make regulations, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, for the management and general working of the schools of the various communities.

VIII. EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Primary Education.

The special feature of the school year 1920 was the passing of the Elementary Education Law, alluded to in the preceding chapter, for schools other than Greek-Christian. In September, after repeated informal conferences, a New Education Law was introduced, in the form of a Bill, at a special Session of the Legislative Council. This measure was drafted to meet the demands repeated over many years for a change in the system of raising funds for educational purposes. In the Bill the method of local assessment "according to the means of each person" was superseded and replaced by a Central Education Fund raised by additions to the Verghi Kimat (Land Tax) and to the sheep and goat tax. The Bill provided that the teachers should be appointed on the recommendation to the High Commissioner of the Board of Education for each religious community, and that their salaries should be fixed by the Board. Of the total amount required to meet the expenditure on elementary education, the taxes referred to above were graduated so as to produce approximately one half, the remainder to be found by the Government out of general revenue.

After considerable discussion the measure in so far as it related to Greek-Christian Elementary Schools was, at the request of the Greek-Christian members of Council, not proceeded with, and the law as finally passed applied only to Elementary Schools other than those of the Greek-Christian community.

During the year under review there were 235 Moslem, 502 Greek-Christian and 11 other denominational schools open, giving a total of 748 as against 741 during the preceding year. About 43,000 scholars attended the schools, or rather more than a thousand in excess of those that attended in 1919. The progress of education under British administration may be gauged by a comparison of the returns for the years 1881 and 1920 :—

		<i>Schools.</i>		<i>Scholars.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
1881	..	170	..	6,776	..	£3,672
1920	..	738	..	43,120	..	£70,000 (approx.)

The average attendance in village schools, while well maintained, was not quite so satisfactory as in previous years. This was due mainly to the prolonged and abundant harvesting of the olive crop in the autumn at which many school children assisted.

The number of teachers enrolled for elementary education during the year was 950.

The desire of village school committees to build suitable school buildings has again manifested itself strongly and 8 Moslem and 49 Greek villages completed or began new school buildings during the period under review. A special grant made for this purpose from general revenue proved of great value as a stimulant, while many loans were made to village committees by the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

Secondary Education.

There is no feature of particular interest to record under this heading during the past year. The Greek gymnasium in the town of Nicosia was partially destroyed by fire and is now in course of reconstruction on the original site at an estimated cost of £3,000.

The English school at Nicosia (undenominational), which is conducted on the lines of an English grammar school, and the American Academy at Larnaca (attached to the Reformed Presbyterian Mission) have continued their good work during the year. A commercial school, founded at Lemythou in 1912 by Mr. D. Mitsis, a native of that village, also continued its useful work.

Government Examinations.

The Government examinations in English, Turkish, and Greek, and the Civil Service qualifying examination, were as usual held during the year. About 150 boys presented themselves for the examinations in English of whom about two-thirds were successful and were awarded certificates.

Secondary and Technical Education.

The secondary schools are chiefly classical. The Moslem Idadi school's programme is arranged to prepare boys for higher education at Constantinople, and the Greek-Christian schools prepare their pupils for the University at Athens. A large number of the pupils, however, do not proceed so far. The secondary school at Larnaca is a Commercial Lyceum, paying special attention to languages and book-keeping, and has done excellent work.

The agricultural school, which is maintained by the Agricultural Department, has been already referred to. Lectures on Chemistry have been given for some years by the Government Analyst, the classes being attended principally by student compounders preparing for the pharmaceutical examination.

Apprentices are taken by the Government Railway and in the workshops of the Public Works Department, while in the Central Prison at Nicosia, boot-making, tailoring, and carpet-making are taught.

Athalassa Reformatory.

A reformatory for juvenile convicts on the lines of the Borstal Institutions was started at the Government stock farm at Athalassa. The boys, whose ages range from 14 to 18, are housed in quarters constructed almost entirely by their own labours during the year and are employed on various useful duties connected with the farm. Since the inauguration of the reformatory in April, 1920, 51 boys have been sent out from the Central Prison at Nicosia and the experiment has proved most successful. The employment on which the boys are engaged has been carpentry, on the maintenance of paddock fencing and on repairs to the woodwork of farm buildings, the harvesting of crops, ploughing, attendance on the stud animals and general farming. They are credited with a sum of 4*d.* for each day's work if of satisfactory conduct. The boys have worked extremely well, and their behaviour has, on the whole, been excellent.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

The Cyprus Government Railway consists of a line running from the port of Famagusta, at the north-eastern end of the Island, to Morphou, near its north-western extremity. It traverses the Central Messaoria plain and passes through Nicosia, the capital. From Morphou there is an extension into the foothills of Mount Troodos to Evrykhou, a village situated in the wide and fertile Solea valley at an altitude of 1,500 feet above sea level. The total length of line open for traffic is 76 miles.

The year under review has again been marked by the increased rates of wages paid and the enhanced cost of all materials and of maintenance. As a consequence, while the working expenses amounted to £39,633, the gross earnings amounted to £32,702 only, a deficit of £6,931. The receipts were approximately equal to those of the preceding year. To obviate future losses it has been decided to increase the rates for passengers and goods. Passenger traffic receipts showed a slight increase of about 5 per cent., but this was counter-balanced by a corresponding decrease in those for goods traffic.

The permanent way suffered heavily from wash-outs, due to the heavy rains rushing down torrential streams, but no serious accidents actually occurred.

Roads.

The British administration of Cyprus may point with pride to the roads of the Island. During the year, 650 miles of main roads were maintained at a cost of £20,000, or £30 per mile. In addition to this, a sum of £18,000 was expended on foundations and metal

for other roads, including a sum of £2,300 for special maintenance due to military requirements. Fifteen bridges were constructed or reconstructed at a cost of £5,000, and £4,000 was expended from general revenue on village roads. The usual Government-constructed bridle-paths were maintained during the year. Motor traffic is possible on most of the roads of the island between the towns and principal villages and district centres.

Postal.

Foreign Mails.—There is a regular subsidized mail service between Cyprus and Egypt. Under their contract with the Government, renewed for a further period of five years as from the 1st of January, 1920, the Khedivial Steamship Company maintain sailings three times a month between Alexandria and Port Said and the ports of Famagusta, Larnaca, and Limassol. A sea post office works on board the mail steamer, greatly expediting the sorting and delivery of the incoming mails. During the year the Post Office received 3,378 inward mail-bags and despatched 727 outward mail-bags. 156 packets of mails were despatched by irregular opportunities to the Syrian coast and to Constantinople.

Internal Posts.—A number of fiscal changes were brought into effect during the year, of which the principal was an increase in the inland letter-post and parcel-post rates. Increases in commission on Money Orders and Postal Orders were imposed, and the foreign parcel-post rates revised. A fee was levied to cover the examination of parcels received by post from abroad.

A complete reorganization of the system of carriage of the local mails was effected during the year. All the principal towns are now served by a regular daily service of posts conveyed by a mail motor service which is maintained by local contractors; in addition, mail services, also by motor, two or three times a week, are carried out to many of the principal villages.

With a few minor exceptions, due mainly to floods, the motor mail services were most satisfactorily carried out during the year. The approximate local mail mileage amounted to upwards of 314,000 miles for the year, an increase of 5,000 miles over the preceding period.

The total number of articles posted within the Island was approximately 2,078,000, a decrease of 92,000 on last year's figures, while foreign correspondence received showed an increase of 74,500 articles. Notwithstanding the increased rates of postage introduced, correspondence posted for local delivery showed an increase of some 4,600 articles; that posted for delivery abroad, however, showed the rather abnormal decrease of about 90,000 articles, or 15 per cent. as compared with 1919. This is attributed to the return of the remainder of the Cypriot muleteers from service

in the Balkans, the withdrawal of a large proportion of the British garrison, and the departure of a large number of refugees from the Island.

The number of parcels dealt with was 78,000, an increase of 12,000 over the previous year. The increased rates had little, if any, effect upon the local parcel service. The number of parcels received from other countries showed the remarkable increase of 18,000 over 28,000 imported last year, or almost 60 per cent. This was due mainly to importers preferring to import their merchandize by parcel-post whenever possible, thus obviating the heavy freight charges for carriage by sea.

About 110,000 registered letters, etc., were handled during the year. It is to the credit of the local postal department that there was not a single case of loss of a registered letter while in the custody of the inland Post Office.

Stamps.—Postage stamps and stamped stationery sold during the year totalled £11,000, an increase of £2,000, due mainly to the increase of inland postage and parcel rates. Stamps sold to philatelists amounted to £132, a decrease of 50 per cent. on the preceding period. Revenue stamps to the value of £8,000 were sold, an increase of £2,000 as compared with those sold in 1919.

Six district post offices, four sub-offices (an increase of one) and one branch office, as well as 296 postal agencies (an increase of nine) were open during the year. Fourteen additional postal agencies were open for the sale of postal orders.

The year was one of great activity, and much was done to modernize the postal methods in vogue and to reorganize the Department.

Telegraphs.—The Eastern Telegraph Company maintains a telegraph cable between Larnaca and Alexandria, and land telegraphs between the six principal towns of the Island. During the summer season Platres and Mount Troodos are connected with the system. The only Government telegraph is a line along the railway, from Famagusta to Morphou and Evrykhou.

Telephones.—There are small telephone exchanges, connecting the various Government offices and the residences of certain Government officials, at Nicosia, Famagusta, and, during the summer season, at Troodos. There are also small systems at Larnaca and Limassol. Long lines connect Troodos with various stations on the railway and with the Nicosia and Famagusta exchanges, and lines have been added connecting Famagusta with Cape Andrea and Cape Greco. An extension of the system of trunk lines from Nicosia to Larnaca has been approved and will be undertaken in 1921. Telephones have assumed an importance in the conduct of Government business, but it has not yet been found possible to establish a system for the use of the general public.

External Communications.—In addition to the Khedivial Steamship Company, which, as above mentioned, maintains a service of mail steamers under contract with the Government between Cyprus and Egypt, the Lloyd Triestino Company maintains a service of passenger steamers which visit Larnaca and Limassol about three times a month on an itinerary which includes Egypt, the Syrian Coast, Cyprus, Constantinople, the Piræus, Venice and Trieste. Steamers of the Servizi Maritimi visit Cyprus two or three times monthly on an itinerary similar to that followed by the Lloyd Triestino vessels. Cargo steamers of the Prince Line are occasional visitors, plying with cargo from Egypt and Syria to Cyprus. Vessels of the Messageries Maritimes also call at Cyprus ports at infrequent intervals, as also cargo steamers of the Affreteurs Réunis.

Communication with abroad either by aeroplane or wireless telegraphy has not yet been established.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	"
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	1920-1921
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1094.

ST. VINCENT.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For previous Report see No. 1063.)



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No. 1094.

ST. VINCENT.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1920.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

The Island of St. Vincent is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd of January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10' N. latitude, and 60° 57' W. longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land, about half the area of Middlesex. Most of the Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, are comprised within the Government of the latter Island. The principal is Bequia, situated at a distance of 9 miles from Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the Island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the Island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their sovereign.

In 1779 the Island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 it was restored to Great Britain.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The prosperity of St. Vincent is wholly dependent upon agriculture. The main crops are cotton, syrup and arrowroot.

There was general depression in the Colony owing to the remunerative prices for cotton and syrup not being maintained throughout the year, and to the continued increases in the prices of foodstuffs and clothing, which bore heavily, especially on the middle and labouring classes. The position of the arrowroot market continued to be very unsatisfactory.

His Excellency the Governor was resident in the Colony from the 6th February to the 4th March, 1920.

His Honour R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G., Administrator, was absent from the Colony on leave from the 16th February to the 16th December, 1920. During his absence the Government was administered by His Honour S. J. Thomas, Chief Justice.

There are 284 miles of public roads affording communication in all directions. Motor cars continue to be substituted for horses and carriages.

The Flag and replica of the Shield presented to the British West Indies Regiment by the League of the Empire was placed in St. George's Cathedral on the 25th August, when a special service was held.

On the occasion of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's visit to Grenada in September, His Honour, the Acting Administrator, proceeded to Grenada and presented an Address of Welcome to His Royal Highness on behalf of the Colony.

III.—CLIMATE.

St. Vincent is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The temperature throughout the year varied from 77·3° F. to 81·0° F. The highest was in September and the lowest in January.

Meteorological records for 1920 show that the mean monthly temperature was 79·0° F.

St. Vincent experienced no abnormal weather during the year. The rainfall at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Kingstown, 80 feet above sea level, was 85·51 in., as compared with 99·52 in. in 1919. The figures for the past 19 years show that June to November are the months in which most rain fell. Rain fell on 257 days and the greatest fall for one day was 5·17 in. on the 24th October.

The reading of the barometer, corrected for instrumental error, elevation, and temperature, ranged from 30·176 in. on the 8th March to 29·835 in. on the 24th October.

IV.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The financial position of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, was :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Surplus at 1st January, 1920 ..				5,097	9	1
Revenue in 1920	59,221	8	4			
Expenditure in 1920	52,305	6	10			
				<u>6,916</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>
Surplus at 31st December, 1920 ..				£12,013	10	7

In this amount is included a sum of £1,042 18s. 6d., unspent balance at 31st December, 1920, of the Windward Highway Loan.

The total revenue and expenditure from all sources in the last three financial periods were :—

				<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
				£	£
1918-19	..	..	..	42,488	36,597
1919	..	..	..	34,111	35,361
1920	..	..	..	59,221	52,305

The net local revenue and expenditure amounted to :—

				<i>Local Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure against Local Revenue.</i>
				£	£
1918-19	..	..	..	41,503	35,105
1919	..	..	..	32,851	33,094
1920	..	..	..	58,221	52,302

The principal items of revenue in the last two financial periods were :—

				1919	1920
				£	£
Import Duties	..	..	..	13,084	21,744
Export Duties	..	..	..	1,512	4,233
Excise Duty on Rum	..	..	..	4,777	4,637
Land and House Tax	..	..	..	4,897	7,697
Income Tax	..	..	..	849	2,630

Of the total expenditure of £52,305 the sum of £2,492 was expended on Colonial gratuities and cost of passages to Cuba of the returned soldiers of the British West Indies Regiment. The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, made up of donations from the public in England and elsewhere at the time of the eruptions in the Soufrière volcano in 1902-3, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future elemental disaster. The annual interest derived from this balance, amounting to £750, is put to general revenue and is applied to the relief of the poor.

Public Debt.

The public debt on 31st December, 1920, was £11,900, of which £1,500 is a loan raised by the town of Kingstown in 1914, for which the Colony is responsible only in case of default. The accumulated sinking funds provided for its redemption stood at £2,511 on the 31st December, 1920, of which £2,035 was in respect of Government Loans other than the Kingstown Board Loan. The actual net indebtedness of the Colony was therefore £8,365, equivalent to less than one-fifth of the average annual revenue for the four years ending 31st December, 1920.

The Colony is also responsible, in case of default, for the unpaid balance of the Hurricane Loan to planters made from funds supplied by the Imperial Treasury, which was £2,565 on the 31st of December, 1920. On that date there had been received from planters towards the repayment of this balance the sum of £2,234, of which £2,160 was invested through the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Currency.

British and American gold, five dollar notes of the Colonial Bank, and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony. Government accounts are kept in sterling, and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Colony in 1911 was 41,877, according to the census taken in that year. The population on 31st December, 1920, was estimated by the Registrar-General at 54,014 persons.*

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages in the past two years :—

	<i>April to December, 1919.</i>	<i>January to December, 1920.</i>
Births	1,320	1,998
Males	681	1,046
Females	639	952
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ..	24·8	36·99
Deaths	706	1,008
Death-rate per 1,000 ..	20·67	18·66
Marriages	99	159
Marriage-rate per 1,000 ..	1·86	2·94

Illegitimate births numbered 1,401, or 70·1 per cent. of the total number of all births.

VI.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total values of imports and exports in 1919 and 1920 were :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Total Trade</i>
	£	£	£
1919 ..	185,128	153,892	339,020
1920 ..	257,230	299,650	556,880

Produce of the Colony to the value of £299,650 was exported in 1920.

The following table shows the value of imports for the past two years :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
United Kingdom	58,121	83,518
Canada	54,123	70,978
British West Indies ..	13,186	15,764
India	557	957
Newfoundland	971	1,818
Other British Colonies ..	898	6,983
United States of America ..	54,750	72,739
France	883	560
Denmark	72	231
Holland	137	251
Foreign West Indies ..	465	861
Other Countries	965	2,570
	<u>£185,128</u>	<u>£257,230</u>

*Note.—This estimate was shown by the Census of 24th April, 1921, to be over 20·5% in excess of the true figure.

The following are the percentages in the last two years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1919.	1920.
United Kingdom	31.40	32.46
United States of America ..	29.24	28.27
Canada	29.57	27.59
All other Countries	9.80	11.66

The following is a summary of the imports for the year :—

	£
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	87,763
Articles mainly manufactured	124,433
Articles mainly unmanufactured	45,034
	<hr/>
	£257,230

Exports.

The destinations of the exports of the produce of the Colony in 1919 and 1920 were as follows :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
United Kingdom	87,523	215,538
Canada	13,068	29,851
United States of America ..	3,311	538
British West Indies	40,498	43,984
British Guiana	4,046	4,015
Other Countries	1,303	128
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£149,749	£294,054

The principal products of the Colony exported were :—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
Arrowroot	42,222	52,771
Cotton—		
Sea Island	64,004	163,443
Marie Galante	2,778	15,508
Cocoa	6,385	4,956
Sugar—		
Muscovado	3	—
Syrup and Molasses ..	10,723	27,828
Cassava Starch	4,836	3,844
Pea-nuts	5,098	10,816
Animals	3,980	2,995
Cotton-seed Oil	223	2,217

Agricultural Industries.

The Government Cotton Ginnery and Granary continued to buy seed cotton and corn (maize) on profit-sharing terms.

The following quantities were dealt with in the seasons 1919 and 1920 :—

	1919.	1920.
	lb.	lb.
Sea Island seed cotton ..	332,773	78,236
Marie Galante	288,504	—
Corn on cob	92,672	85,018
Corn, grain	83,842	106,077
	<hr/> 176,514	<hr/> 191,095

There was considerable competition with private dealers for the purchase of Sea Island cotton in 1920, and no Marie Galante was purchased by the factory, the bulk of it having been sold to dealers in Carriacou, Grenada.

The corn, when kiln dried, amounted to 165,232 lb. and was stored in bins to provide a reserve of cereal food for the drier months of 1921.

Cotton.—During the year the area planted was 7,965 acres, the largest on record, and an increase of 1,332 acres over that planted in the previous year, of which 6,453 was in Sea Island and 1,512 in Marie Galante. The total output in Sea Island cotton was 614,508 lb. or 95·5 lb. per acre. Cotton seed is used extensively as a fertilizer.

Sea Island cotton amounting to 475,650 lb., of the value of £163,443, was exported during the year, as against 410,277 lb., value £64,004, in 1919.

Marie Galante—77,540 lb., value £15,508, in 1920, as against 33,331 lb., value £2,778, in 1919.

Sugar.—The Sugar-cane industry continued to be an important one; a small quantity only was, however, made into sugar, which was used for home consumption.

Syrup and Molasses.—185,999 gallons, of the value of £27,828, were exported in 1920, as against 170,842 gallons, of £10,723 value, in the previous year.

Rum.—20,147 proof gallons were manufactured in the Colony, showing an increase of 5 gallons on the previous year.

Imported rum for local consumption amounted to 10,482 gallons, as compared with 4,470 gallons in 1919.

Arrowroot.—This article continued to be unremunerative. 2,794,532 lb., of the value of £52,771, was exported, as compared with 2,244,575 lb., valued at £42,222, in 1919.

Pea-nuts.—12,017 bushels, value £10,816, were exported, showing an increase of 688 bushels, of the value of £5,718, over the exports in 1919.

There are 21 Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies in the Colony, and the total sum of £4,886 was loaned to the various Societies during the year. All loans were duly repaid when due.

Shipping.

The number of vessels entered was 363, of 174,812 tons; and 362 cleared, of 172,084 tons. Three vessels were registered of 81 tons total.

VII.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1919 and 1920 :—

	1919.	1920.
Number of schools	27	27
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December	2,481	3,669
Average attendance	1,860	1,912
Government grant-in-aid	£1,481 3s. 9d.	£2,069
Cost per head in average attendance	15s. 11d.	£1 1s. 8d.

Eight of the 27 regular schools belong to the Government, which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide, and are responsible for the upkeep of, the buildings of the other 19 schools. The salaries of the teachers, however, and the greater part of the other expenses of these schools are paid from public funds.

There were nine other small schools of a primary education standard, known as "Aided Schools," which were assisted by small Government grants.

The Government maintains in Kingstown a secondary school for the education of boys, the Grammar School, and one for girls, the Girls' High School. The average attendance in 1919 and 1920 was 45 and 49 boys and 27 and 32 girls. There is a system of Government scholarships to the Grammar School for pupils from the primary schools.

Provision has been made for the Town Boards of Kingstown and Georgetown to provide sums towards scholarships and exhibitions at the secondary schools on lines similar to the Government exhibitions.

VIII.—BANKS.

Government Savings Bank.

The following is a comparative statement of the operations of the Government Savings Bank during the past two years :—

Year.	Number of depositors at 31st December.	Amount of deposits.	Amount of withdrawals.	Balance at credit of depositors at 31st December, including interest capitalized.
1919 ..	982	£5,102	£6,007	£15,707
1920 ..	921	5,391	4,988	16,530

The interest capitalized during the year amounted to £420.

The Savings Bank funds invested at the 31st of December, 1920, amounted to £17,944. In consequence of the continued depreciation in values investments could not be realised with advantage.

Colonial Bank.

There is a branch of the Colonial Bank with headquarters in England. There is also a Savings Bank Department attached to the branch.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

External.

A regular fortnightly service is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company calling on their outward and homeward voyages at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana. The Harrison Line of steamers also call with and for cargo and mails. Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, where there is direct communication by steamers with the United Kingdom and United States.

Internal.

The Post Office does a considerable amount of money order and parcels business (including the Cash on Delivery system with the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and other countries.

The central office is in Kingstown, with 16 district offices. Mails are sent to the windward side of the Island by motor car, by motor boat to the leeward side, and to the Grenadines by sailing opportunities.

There is no inland telegraph service. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at St. Vincent, and a subsidy of £300 per annum is paid to the Company, in return for which daily news bulletins are furnished and the Colony participates in the system of reduced charges for cablegrams.

The Government maintains a telephone system which connects Kingstown with exchanges in the districts and with residences and places of business. There were 173 services and 169 miles of line in use.

R. POPHAM LOBB,

Administrator.

Government House,
Saint Vincent.

13th September, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

		ANNUAL.						Year.
No.	Colony, etc.							
1059	Bahamas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1060	British Solomon Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1061	Seychelles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1062	Mauritius .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1063	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	April-December	1919
1064	Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1065	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1066	Gold Coast .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1067	Jamaica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1070	British Honduras .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1071	Hong Kong .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1072	Barbados .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1076	Falkland Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1077	Bermuda .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1078	Grenada .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1079	Uganda .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1080	Fiji .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1081	Gibraltar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919
1083	Bechuanaland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1085	Basutoland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1087	Barbados .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1090	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920
1091	Zanzibar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	"
1092	Cayman Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
82	Imperial Institute .. .. .	..	..	..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies .. .. .	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute .. .. .	..	..	..	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General .. .. .	..	..	..	Fishes of the Colonies.

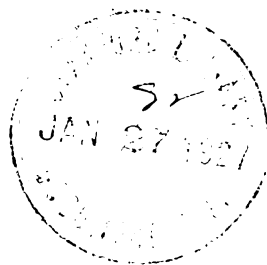
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1095.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT FOR 1920–21.

(For Report for 1919–20 see No. 1059.)



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BAHAMAS.

* REPORT BY THE COLONIAL SECRETARY OF THE
BAHAMAS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1921.

Note.—The figures dealing with finance are for the year ended 31st March, 1921, with Trade and Customs for the year ended 31st December, 1920 (as desired by the Board of Trade).

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue was £254,019, as compared with £204,296 in 1919–20, an increase of £49,723.

The increase in Customs revenue, as shown in the following statement, was due to increased importations of all goods, but chiefly liquors.

The following statement gives the Customs receipts for three years :—

	£
1918–19	61,827
1919–20	165,504
1920–21	219,203

The expenditure was £220,813 (exclusive of £48,682 for debentures redeemed), as against £108,939 in 1919–20, an increase of £111,874.

The following table gives the revenue and expenditure for the past three years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	
	£	£	£
1918–19	81,049	98,236	— 17,187
1919–20	204,296	108,939	+ 95,357
1920–21	254,019	220,813	+ 33,206

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st March, 1921, was £40,568, and on 31st March, 1920 was £138,354.

* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 849 [Cd. 7622–10].

Debt.

The Public Debt bearing interest at 4, 4½, 5 and 5½ per cent. was originally £173,126, and now stands at £36,111.

The annual charge on account of interest and sinking fund is about £9,000.

Currency and Banking.

The current coins are British silver and copper and a very little gold.

United States gold and silver certificates are not legal tender but are accepted if of \$5 and upwards at the same rate as United States gold.

British currency notes of the £1 and 10s. denominations are also in circulation.

Local deposits in the Royal Bank of Canada amounted to £375,796 on 31st March, 1920.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The total value of imports during the year, including coin, was £1,090,217, as against £539,242 in 1919, showing an increase of £550,975.

The following statement shows the nature and the value of the Imports for the last 5 years, grouped under the Board of Trade classification.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Class 1.</i>					
Foodstuffs ..	213,667	248,024	188,953	238,283	329,913
Malt	1,645	1,155	530	1,321	6,126
Spirits (potable)	8,466	7,404	6,370	43,082	272,950
Spirits (other)	85	189	—	61	20
Wines	2,804	2,654	867	2,220	18,004
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	8,891	8,735	11,698	9,679	18,717
Live Stock ..	512	145	28	—	146
Total Class 1.	£236,070	£268,306	£208,446	£294,646	£645,876
<i>Class 2—</i>					
Raw Materials	13,400	14,303	10,389	23,259	28,074
<i>Class 3—</i>					
Manufactured Articles	216,697	200,975	148,345	221,337	407,626
<i>Class 4—</i>					
Coin	8,900	10,000	10,000		8,641
Total ..	£475,067	£493,584	£367,180	£539,242	£1,090,217

Of the total imports *ad valorem* duties were paid on goods of the value of £375,475, or 33 per cent., specific duties on goods valued at £617,836, or 56 per cent. ; and goods of the value of £114,906, or 11 per cent, were admitted free of duty.

Exports.

The value of exports was £300,407, as against £382,140 in 1919. The value of local produce was £275,416 and that of re-exports £24,991.

The figures for the five years grouped under the Board of Trade classification are as follows :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
<i>Class 1—</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Live Animals, Food, Drink, and Narcotics	20,207	25,629	25,009	22,844	33,841
<i>Class 2—</i>					
Raw Materials	304,508	363,195	243,476	334,675	239,268
<i>Class 3—</i>					
Manufactured Articles	7,964	13,653	9,686	24,621	27,298
<i>Class 4—</i>					
Specie					
Total ..	£332,679	£402,477	£278,171	£382,140	£300,407

Sisal.—Exports of this commodity showed a decrease in quantity to the extent of 1,996,897 lb., and in value £33,802.

Sponge.—All grades showed a decrease both in quantity and value, with the exception of Reef, which showed an increase of 12,129 lb. in quantity and £7,538 in value.

The decrease in the various grades was as follows :—

Grass 127,904 lb., £9,057 value ; Hardhead 84,417 lb., £9,897 value ; Velvet 339,088 lb., £40,395 value ; Wool 33,129 lb., £2,352 value ; Yellow 33,129 lb., £1,750 value.

Lumber.—This industry has revived. Shipments to Cuba during the year under review amounted to 530,314 feet, of the value of £4,350.

Tomatoes.—There was an increase of 79,740 bushels in quantity and £14,896 in value.

The following table shows the direction of the export trade for the last five years.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ..	41,944	47,796	17,378	63,221	39,741
United States ..	217,643	290,450	230,049	243,320	186,216
Canada ..	5,514	11,554	4,614	3,219	10,009
British West Indies	945	1,117	2,199	2,633	1,684
Holland ..	14,058	1,827	—	29,671	13,240
France ..	20,425	41,134	15,620	33,164	30,143
Other Countries ..	32,150	8,599	8,311	7,002	19,374
Total ..	£332,679	£402,477	£278,171	£382,230	£300,407

Exports to the Mother Country decreased in value to the extent of £23,480, due to reduced shipments of sponge and tortoise-shell.

Exports to the United States of America amounted to £186,216, or 61·9 per cent. of the total exports, a decrease of £7,104. The chief products shipped were Fresh Fish £1,045, Pineapples (preserved) £4,492, Tomatoes (preserved) £1,303, Tomatoes (raw) 117,027 bushels, £19,991, Salt 28,458 bushels, £711, Bahamas Hemp 4,344,466 lb., £51,329, Bark and Siftings £1,379, Hides and Skins £749, Sponge 2,091,062 lb., £82,788, Woods £366.

Exports to Canada showed an increase of £6,790. The chief exports were, Pineapples (preserved) £3,432, Sponge £6,404.

Exports to France showed a decrease of £3,021. Chief export, Sponge, £30,099.

Exports to British West Indies were, 36,041 bushels of Salt, value £636, shipped to Jamaica—a decrease of 45,712 bushels as compared with the output for 1919. Other articles were valued at £1,048.

Holland. The only export was Sponge, £13,240, showing decrease of £16,431.

Other Countries. Shipments of Sponge were made to the Argentine Republic £280, Belgium £1,364, Germany £3,491, Japan £1,744, Spain £253. Tortoise Shell to the value of £650 was sent to Italy. Small shipments of Fish £157 and Salt £86 were made to Haiti. Fish £487, Salt £102, and Lumber £4,350, were shipped to Cuba.

The following table gives the total aggregate trade of the Colony for the seven years 1914-1920.

Year	Import	Export.	Total.
1914	£ 365,724	£ 223,491	£ 591,015
1915	363,410	243,431	601,684
1916	475,067	332,679	807,746
1917	493,584	402,447	896,061
1918	367,180	278,171	645,351
1919	539,242	382,140	921,382
1920	1,090,217	300,407	1,390,624

The nationality, number, description, and tonnage of vessels entering and clearing during the year 1920 were as follows :—

Vessels Entered.

Nationality	No.	Tons.
British : Sailing	195	13,141
Steam	159	14,157
Danish : Steam	1	1,282
Norwegian : Steam	3	3,277
United States : Sailing	27	5,702
Steam	672	115,851
Dutch : Sailing	1	575
Dominican : Steam	1	16
Total	1,059	154,001

Vessels Cleared.

Nationality.	No.	Tons.
British : Sailing	206	14,509
Steam	163	13,540
Norwegian : Sailing	1	1,450
Steam	3	3,277
United States : Sailing	33	5,085
Steam	625	115,031
Dutch : Sailing	1	575
Dominican : Steam	1	16
Total	1,033	153,483

Agriculture.

Extracts from the Report of the Board of Agriculture are sub-joined :—

“ The agricultural year began with the brightest prospects. Before the crop of the previous year was disposed of, foreign capitalists were on the scene taking up land and making contracts with local growers, prepared to advance the necessary funds to secure the largest crop of tomatoes ever produced in the Colony. As early as July large numbers of labourers were employed preparing large tracts of land on New Providence and the Out Islands. On some of these seed was sown in early August and from this early sowing a good crop was reaped and marketed in November and early December, bringing prices never before dreamed of.

“ Unfortunately the seasons were irregular. Two very heavy rainfalls with six weeks' drought between, followed by a prolonged drought of three months, resulted in a very short crop. This extraordinary weather condition was also responsible for a number of insect pests which very considerably reduced the quantity of fruit for export.

“ Some of the growers, having suffered the year before from a lack of transportation facilities, had entered into agreement with the Miami Steamship Company for a weekly service with Jacksonville, and in November the s.s. ‘ Maple ’ arrived, and from that time until the end of January there was no difficulty in moving every crate ready for shipment.

“ The crop was moved so regularly there was very little chance for the fruit to ripen on the vines. Consequently the canning operations were very small—not nearly enough for home consumption.

“ Tomatoes exported out of the Colony during the months of November, 1920, to March, 1921 :—

	Crates	Value.
Miami	35,193	£ 14,150
Jacksonville	13,498	5,450
New York	35,768	14,400
	<u>84,459</u>	<u>£34,000</u>

“ *Citrus Trees.*—In connection with the Blue-Grey fly at Spanish Wells and neighbouring settlements the Secretary has made six visits to the infested locality, and the Board has continued to supply insecticides and spraying outfits. At the Current, where the people have taken hold intelligently, the fly is almost extinct. At Spanish Wells much progress has been

made and the pest is under control. At the Bluff, people were indifferent and wanted the Board to hire them to take care of their own trees. At his last visit to this settlement the Secretary was forced to destroy 500 or more trees. This, we hope, has awakened the people to the necessity of helping themselves if they wish to save any of their trees.

"In the opinion of the Board it is useless to attempt to encourage citrus-growing in New Providence or in any infested area, but they have sent seed to the Commissioners at Cat Island for the purpose of starting nurseries from which the planters of that Island may obtain stock.

"*Bees.*—The Italian bees imported by the Board and mentioned in last year's report are doing well. There are at present five Apiaries in New Providence and two on the Out Islands, and the supply of honey during the year from all has been satisfactory both as to quality and quantity. The Board keeps a stock of supplies always on hand.

"*Stock.*—The Board has made special efforts to improve the stock of the Colony. Berkshire and Duroc pigs have been distributed at Long Island, Cat Island, Andros, and Harbour Island.

"Southdown-Shropshire Ram sheep have been sent to Exuma, Long Island, Eleuthera, and there are two now at the Botanic Station to be sent to the Out Islands.

"A beef bull of good pedigree was imported from Jamaica and is now at 'Sans Souci' serving heifers on that and neighbouring estates. It is hoped in this way to get improved stock for the Out Islands.

"A proof Jack has been sent to The Bight, Cat Island.

"Several lots of poultry for breeding purposes have been imported by the Board for private individuals.

"Recently the sheep and pigs brought to market show the good effects of the work of the Board along this line, and it is the confirmed policy of the Board to continue importing and distributing good breeding stock until the quality of locally-raised mutton and pork is up to the required standard.

"*Seeds.*—The Board has kept on hand for sale at cost and free distribution a supply of vegetable seeds of every variety. The onion seed, in spite of every precaution, again came late and as a result the crop will be very small. We have been pleased to note an increased amount of garden truck raised in New Providence and think we are safe in saying that the prospect for the coming year is bright and encouraging.

"*Out Island Exhibitions.*—Following up the success of last year, exhibitions have been held in several Out Island districts. The reports from Long Island and Andros show that the people are getting interested and much good is being accomplished.

"The Exhibition at Harbour Island was widely advertised and so favourably commented on in the public press at the time that we need only mention here that the Board intends giving every encouragement to any Commissioner who will take an interest in a movement of this kind.

"*Cotton*.—Small experiments were made in cotton-growing—one in Nassau and one at Andros. Neither was successful, failure to a large extent being due to drought."

Fisheries.

The following are extracts from the report of the Marine Products Board:—

"*Sponge*.—The forecast for this year was (*vide* Report 1919): 'The outlook for the future is bright,' and we would have had another record year like 1917, were it not for the sudden collapse of the important December market, which for the first time in the history of the Board, if not of the Exchange, was below the November month by nearly £3,000 and less than last year's by £5,000.

"The main reasons for the decline in December trading were:— (1) The slump in the money market of the United States; (2) the influx of Mediterranean sponge into the English sponge houses. The first was, of course, unavoidable, but the latter might be remedied by the Mother Country giving us protection against foreign competition.

"Another circumstance, not altogether unforeseen—however, the steady rise in Exchange rates from eleven to forty per cent., the high water mark, was a very serious handicap to purchasers for the European houses, and had its effect in lessening the value of the 'fine' goods which are so largely used by them.

"On the whole the year was a very good one, and although it closed weakly, yet the vitality of the sponge business has been too often tested for this circumstance to cause alarm.

"Wool has been the object of the Board's keenest interest and much has been done with the Board's limited means to increase the output, but the Board is now satisfied that artificial culture is the only method that promises a permanent remedy for the shortage in any variety of sponge.

"Closures do much, but the slow accumulation of three years of closure are swept away in a month's fishing, and the Board has to begin all over again. Cultures can be protected against fishing and their increase will furnish a steady supply of embryos for restocking depleted beds.

"There are also very valuable varieties such as Deadman's Cay Reef (*tubilifera*) and the 'Current' wool, besides the very little known Moss Town, Exuma, wool which is so fine that it could easily pass as Mediterranean sponge. All of these are eagerly sought by dealers, and fetch high prices, but so few are

brought to market that in the case of the Reef and the Moss Town wool they are regarded more as curiosities than as a commercial product.

"The sales aggregated £129,002 10s. and has but one year outrivalling it, 1917, which rolled up a sale of £152,282 3s. 3d. worth of sponge, so that the Colony has no cause whatever to fear the future in this trade.

"*Closures.*—The Bight of Acklins is still under closure and from the latest reports is progressing favourably, and if the period passes without a southeast hurricane the results of the closure will be, it is expected, very gratifying.

"The Bight is under guard, one watchman being employed to prevent poaching, but the Board is considering the advisability of adding another when the planting now in process is completed.

"*Culture.*—At last the Board has launched on a definite system of culture. With the funds supplied for that purpose 30,000 discs mounted with (*equina gassypina*) wool scions from the Acklins Bight are to be planted.

"Though the vote of £800 was made during the last session of the House, the Board was unable to proceed as the shortage of cement, which extended over several months, prevented the Secretary from going on with the work. He was forced to visit the States to purchase the 100 barrels needed for the discs as well as other implements not obtainable here, and it was not until late in the year that he could begin the work at Spring Point, Acklins.

"The Ferry Farm still continues in existence, and though active planting operations have ceased, yet the sponge planted there are growing and gestating to the great advantage of the beds.

"*Turtle Shell.*—The Board is able to speak with as much confidence concerning this marine product as it did about sponge. In 1918 it said in its report, 'The Board is pleased to note that the turtle-shell industry seems likely to recover rapidly from the stagnation caused by the War'; and this prediction was verified, as, in 1919, the Board reported 'There is nothing so spectacular as the sudden rise in prices for this product,' and that year was the greatest on record for shell; but the Board added a note of warning, which we regret that dealers did not heed—'Whether the coming season will maintain these excessive figures is doubtful,' and proceeded to give reasons for this opinion, which the Board has now to confirm as this year was a most disastrous one to dealers in turtle-shell.

"The turtlers suffered little as, in spite of the Board's warning, high prices prevailed and the loss to dealers was heavy. To-day shell is a drug with hardly any but a speculative market.

"But there is a limit to depression and as soon as overstocked manufacturers are relieved and money gets easier in the large cities, we may be confident that turtle-shell will again

take its place in the list of exports. In fact, it is little harm for business in natural products to experience these checks. It slackens the ardour of the hunter and permits the species to recover from the excessive strain that high prices entail. If turtle-shell always sold for the prices attained in 1919 no laws could protect the turtle from extinction.

“ *Bêche de Mer*.—The Board has cause for congratulation that its efforts to exploit and promote this edible holothurian have at last been rewarded. Those who have been following the reports will have noticed the frequent references to expeditions and experiments in fishing and curing *Bêche de Mer*, and though none of the shipments made by the Board of locally-caught and cured *Bêche de Mer* met with much encouragement, yet the last lot forwarded attracted the attention of the Hong Kong merchants who wrote asking for a trial shipment of several tons.

“ To-day, if transport serves, we can say that a fishery is established in the Colony. Mr. Cheu Lung, representing the firm of Sam Ching Chang of Hong Kong, has been engaged in fishing for *Bêche de Mer* for several months, and has now a lot of 4 tons ready for shipment. The Board will follow this consignment with great interest and hopes to be able to report favourably on it next year. It is not, however, the Board's experience that one shipment should decide the fate of the industry. The obstacles in the way of transport are such that the fish may be so long delayed as to arrive in bad condition, which happened more than once to the Board's small consignments, yet there have been lots that were in good order on reaching Hong Kong and the Board has no doubt that if the present shipments of properly cured fish arrive in order they will meet with a profitable sale.

“ The Board pledges itself to assist the new fishery in every possible way.

“ *Sharks*.—The Ocean Leather Company, with headquarters in New York City and a branch here, has started buying shark skins, fins and the liver oil of that fish.

“ The Board, years ago, endeavoured to interest fishermen in the shark, not, however, for its skin (as the tanning of skins is a very recent invention), but for the valuable oil the liver yields.

“ So far not many of our fishermen have paid serious attention to the shark, and the supply of skins is not large, but the Company intends to develop the fishery and is issuing equipment and instructions for catching and curing the sharks and the skins and fins and for extracting their oil.

“ The present supply is depreciated by improper flensing and it is the Company's intention to give practical lessons on this important part of the work.

“ The Board will watch the progress of this business and expect to have more details for the information of the Honourable Legislature in its next report.

Shells.—There is no revival in this trade. The demand is slight, but there is, no doubt, large increase of the raw material awaiting orders from abroad. The falling-off in this export is of no loss to the Colony as the shells are increasing in numbers and value continually.

Fish.—The Bahama Fishing Company, reported last year as purchasing cargoes of fish, have for some reason unknown ceased to operate in our waters.

Lobsters.—The Board's hope for a profitable trade have not been fulfilled, as the export of the tails of this crustacean has not been continued. The main cause is, we presume, the delay in carriage, which prevents the tails arriving in marketable condition.

Pearls.—There is positively no demand for this once eagerly sought gem. A fine specimen was offered but could evoke no speculative interest, it falling to a tourist. But as the tourist trade is adventitious and casual it cannot be considered as giving a standard of either value or demand to any trade."

Manufactures.

Pineapple Canning Factories.—The export of tinned pineapples during the last five years :—

1916	38,807	cases, valued at	£10,983
1917	47,997	" " "	£14,237
1918	22,315	" " "	£7,454
1919	18,604	" " "	£5,200
1920	11,050	" " "	£7,934

Lumber Mills.—The Bahamas Cuban Company at Abaco milled 2,694,319 ft. of pine.

Salt.—The exports amounted to 72,099 bushels, valued at £1,535.

Lands and Forests.

There were 255 Grants of Crown land made during the year 1920, the area being 1327½ acres. Approximately a total of 372,204 acres of land in the Colony have been sold by the Crown to private persons and 242,795 acres remain ungranted.

It is not the policy of the Crown at present to sell lands outright except in the case of lots required for building or for such other special purposes as may be approved by the Governor of the Colony, but leases will be granted by arrangement and on reasonable terms.

On the island of New Providence there is an area of Crown Land containing about seven square miles covered with pine forest and the Crown is prepared to consider a concession for a licence to cut and manufacture these trees into lumber.

The islands of Abaco, Grand Bahama, and Andros also have extensive areas covered with pine forest, but the right to cut and manufacture these trees has already been granted for a long period to an American Company

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-three Acts were added to the Statute Book.

The Tariff was amended by granting a drawback of 50 per centum on duties of Customs except in the case of wines, spirits, and tobacco.

The Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement 1920 was ratified.

Provision was made for the compilation of a Land Roll of the Colony.

A new Public Establishments Act provided increased salaries to public officers.

A V.D. Act was passed.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The teaching staff employed by the Board of Education consisted of 50 principal teachers, 4 assistant teachers, 4 pupil teachers, 190 monitors, 8 sewing teachers, 4 students in training, and 30 employed in aided schools.

The total numbers receiving primary education are given in the following table :—

	1919			1920		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Board Schools ..	2,817	3,041	5,858	3,893	3,689	7,582
Aided Private Schools	419	456	875	1,058	1,030	2,088
Church of England ..	475	556	1,031	542	560	1,102
Roman Catholic ..	201	260	461	159	256	415
Baptist ..	34	52	86	32	23	55
Private Schools ..	170	213	383	33	47	80
Total ..	4,116	4,578	8,694	5,717	5,605	11,322

Primary education is compulsory between the ages of six and fourteen years, is provided by the Government, and is controlled by a Board of Education consisting of twelve members appointed annually by the Governor. The Board receives an annual grant from the Legislature of £6,000, out of which school-houses, teachers' residences, etc., have to be provided and kept in repair, as well as the payment of teachers' salaries and general expenses. In addition to the annual grant, the Board received from the Treasury for the augmentation of teachers' salaries the sum of £3,979 8s. during the year under review. The cost is greatly enhanced by the breaking up of the population into many small settlements, long distances apart, on the various islands, themselves separated many miles. The average cost

for each child on the rolls, inclusive of special grants for repairs and new buildings, is £1 8s. 7d. and for each child in average attendance £2 9s. 6d.

There is still no State provision for secondary education, but private organisations connected with religious bodies provided higher instruction as follows :—

Name of School.	No. of Boys.	No. of Girls.	Total.
Queen's College and Preparatory School (Wesleyan)	68	64	132
Nassau Grammar School (Church of England) ..	18	—	18
St. Hilda's High School (Church of England) ..	14	40	54
St. Francis Xavier's Academy (Roman Catholic)	17	33	50
Total ..	117	137	254

There is also a night school with 22 pupils, under the supervision of the Rev. C. B. Crofts.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospital.

The Bahamas General Hospital (originally established in 1809 as a Poor-house) comprises the hospital proper, infirmary, dispensary, lunatic asylum, and leper wards.

The number of inmates on the 1st January, 1920, was :—

Alexandra Hospital	..	34 males,	37 females.
Victoria Jubilee Infirmary	13	..	12 ..
Lunatic Asylum	.. ..	22 ..	16 ..
Leper Wards	.. ..	3 ..	3 ..
		—	—
Totals	..	72 males.	68 females.
		—	—

During the year 1920 there were 723 admissions, making a total under treatment of 863, of whom 321 were discharged recovered, 180 relieved, 39 unchanged, and 179 died.

The Institution is managed by a Board appointed annually by the Governor.

Savings Bank.

During the year ended 30th June, 1920, 4412 deposits amounting to £16,442, and 3461 withdrawals amounting to £11,945 were made, an excess of £4,497 over withdrawals.

The number of depositors on the 30th June, 1920, was 3280, including 581 dead and unclaimed accounts. The balance due to depositors was £32,673.

The total liabilities amounted to £32,673, assets to £38,896, and an estimated surplus of £2,125 based on the investments at their approximate value.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The births in 1920 numbered 1,930, as against 2,001 in 1919. The deaths were 1,213, as against 1,002 in 1919. The birth-rate was 34·4, and the death-rate 21·6.

The estimated population on 1st January, 1920, was	..	57,838
Births, 1920	1,930
Deaths, 1920	1,213

Add excess of births	717
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Emigrants exceeded immigrants by	58,555
					2,170

Estimated population on 1st January, 1921	56,385
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The public health of the Colony was better than in 1919. There was the usual summer epidemic of typhoid in New Providence but the mortality was not high. The Out Islands were less fortunate in respect of that disease. The Colony escaped the influenza epidemic which was prevalent in the United States in the early part of the year.

Meteorological Statistics.

The following are the meteorological data for the past three years :—

Year	Temperature		Means of			Extremes of		Rainfall inches.
	7.30 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	
1918 ..	°F. 76·2	°F. 78·2	°F. 77·1	°F. 88·1	°F. 71·6	°F. 85·3	°F. 61·4	49·35
1919 ..	°F. 77·2	°F. 78·2	°F. 77·7	°F. 81·4	°F. 72·4	°F. 85·6	°F. 60·0	46·53
1920 ..	°F. 76·5	°F. 78·0	°F. 77·3	°F. 82·6	°F. 71·8	°F. 90·5	°F. 60·2	38·96

VII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH.

Postal.

The postal revenue for 1920-21 was £8,810, as against £14,263 in the previous year. The decrease was largely due to the comparatively small purchases of stamps by dealers and collectors in consequence of the withdrawal of the War issues.

The allowance received from the United Kingdom as a share of postage on parcels despatched to the Colony showed an increase of £64. It is evidence of the revival of trade with the Mother Country and an indication of what could be done if direct communication were available.

Commissions on Money Orders and Postal Orders yielded an increase of £34. The rate of commission on Money Orders

issued for payment in the United States is based on the current rate of exchange. During the year the value of the pound sterling in the American market was as low as \$3.50.

The total cost of the postal service, including Foreign and Interinsular Mail services, amounted to £15,455, being an increase of £6,645 over the previous year, occasioned by the subsidy of £7,250 paid to Florida East Coast Hotel Company upon the resumption of their service during the tourist season.

Telegraphs.

The volume of traffic and the revenue exceeded that of any previous year. The revenue was £5,198 19s. 9d. and the expenditure £1,953 12s. 5d. 11,809 telegrams were received and despatched.

A radio telegraph station was established at Governor's Harbour with excellent results. Similar small stations are to be erected at Bimini, Inagua, and Harbour Island during 1921.

Telephones.

There are now 464 telephones on the system.

The revenue was £2,156 9s. 11d. and the expenditure £2,134 9s. 11d. The last instalment of the Telephone Loan was paid, leaving the system free of liability.

Electric Light.

The revenue was £5,471 7s. 6d. and the expenditure £8,504 16s. 10d., including repayment of Loan, £666 13s. 4d., and interest, £440.

The deficit was due to the cost of coal and other supplies, also to the purchase of the equipment necessary to keep the old machinery in operation until a new plant, for the installation of which a contract had been entered into, could be completed.

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Development of the Colony.—Extracts from the report of the Development Board are appended :—

“ Early in June the question of the possibility of using sharks' skins for the manufacturing of shoes, etc., was brought before the Board by Mr. Curry, one of its members. After some correspondence the Board succeeded in interesting the Ocean Leather Company sufficiently to cause them to establish a branch of their business at Nassau.

“ In order to protect the flamingoes at Andros Island, the Board, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Mangrove Cay, offered a reward of £25 to anyone who might give the necessary information leading to a conviction for a breach of the Wild Birds Protection Act. But no information has so far been received.

" In the same month Mr. Bacon, a representative of the Ford Motor Company's Motion Picture Department, visited the Colony, and the Board, amongst other things, arranged for him to visit the 'Mud' and take motion pictures of the sponge industry. Mr. Bacon has already presented the Board with some good photographs, and has promised to try and obtain for the Board a copy of the film of the sponge industry, and it is hoped that the same will be received in due course.

" During the summer the Board, in order to encourage local talent and to assist in its advertising campaign, offered three prizes for the best written articles on New Providence as a winter resort. Twenty-seven competitors contributed articles, and the results were very satisfactory. The five best articles were sent to the States for publication and the next twelve were published locally and issued in pamphlet form from the Board's office.

" Shortly after the Board offered prizes for a folder containing general information for tourists. This also proved satisfactory, and a very attractive folder, which was printed and published locally, was the result. Copies of this folder were sent to the Board's representatives in England and America and supplied to most of the visitors during the season.

" The Board also, as usual, had published a list of Hotels, and boarding and furnished houses, copies of which were sent to its agents and supplied to anyone on application.

" For the purpose of obtaining information about the Colony the Board established the following agencies :—

The Raymond and Whitcombe Company, The Florida East Coast Hotel Company, and The Nassau Hotel and Steamship Company in New York, 'The Ask Mr. Foster Company!' and The Office of The Bimini Bay Rod and Gun Club in Miami, and the West Indian Committee in London.

" To these agencies large quantities of literature were sent from time to time for free distribution, and during the winter season the local weather report was sent daily to the Board's agents in America and also to the *New York Herald*.

" The Board being of opinion that a daily newspaper during the winter months should be given a trial, arranged with *The Nassau Guardian* for the publication of that paper daily from the 1st of January to the 31st of March.

" In order to assist the development of the Out Islands as far as possible, the Board gave every encouragement to the holding of the exhibition and regatta at Harbour Island, and provided the motor vessel 'Mystery J' for the purpose of carrying passengers to the District. Both the exhibition and regatta proved a great success, and Mr. McKinney, the Commissioner, is to be commended for the great interest he took in the matter.

“ Every effort has been made by the Board during the year to induce cigar manufacturers from Key West to establish a branch at Nassau, but up to the present nothing definite has been decided.

“ The Board also made every possible effort to encourage the establishment of a motion picture theatre at Nassau. Owing, however, to its inability to obtain sufficient electrical current for the purpose, all its efforts have proved fruitless. However, this is a matter which the Board is very anxious to see carried out, and no effort will be spared to effect this object as soon as the new power plant has been installed.

“ At the request of the Civic Circle the Board agreed to assist the Circle to the extent of £50 in providing funds for the improvement of Rawson Square and other public grounds.

“ In order to give visitors a good impression on landing, the Board, at considerable expense, caused to be erected a new shed on the Crown Wharf, and has recently completed the building of an attractive rest-house at the landing at South-West Bay. The Board has also erected a useful pier at Fort Montague, which it is hoped will be a great convenience as a landing for vessels and boats desiring to land passengers in that vicinity. The Board also had the Western Esplanade concreted throughout its whole length and also concreted the lane to the East of Rawson Square. Rest House at East End, Clifton and along the road on the South side of the Island have also been erected, and, with the kind permission of Mrs. Mercedes Henry, a satisfactory footpath has been made from the main road to Mermaid's Pool. This latter fills a long-felt want.

“ The Board also had a number of sign-boards, descriptive of various places of interest, and other boards, indicating the names of various estates and streets, erected throughout the Island.”

The Out Islands.

The following is a brief résumé of the Reports of the Out Island Commissioners :—

Abaco.—In the Hope Town District a small lumber mill was installed by Mr. E. Sands between Spencer's Point and Marsh Harbour during the latter part of the year.

There were six sugar-cane mills in operation, producing about 4,250 gallons of syrup.

Progress was made with the building of a three-masted schooner at Hope Town. Boat-building was also engaged in at Marsh Harbour.

In the Green Turtle Cay District the two portable saw-mills in operation gave constant employment to labourers, both skilled and unskilled. The output of lumber for the year was about 5,000,000 feet. The sum of £24,000 was distributed in wages.

The sugar-cane mills in this District produced 2,200 gallons of syrup valued at £660.

Andros.—Marked success attended the sponge industry in the Fresh Creek District especially during the month of November. The catches for the year realised £41,140.

Biminis.—The Hotel referred to in last year's Report was opened towards the end of the year. Its erection afforded lucrative employment to the people of the District, with the result that agricultural pursuits were entirely neglected.

Eleuthera.—Efforts were made at Governor's Harbour to keep alive the waning pineapple industry, but the results were not encouraging. The output of the canning factory amounted to 3,500 cases, valued at £1,178.

Tomato cultivation continued to receive great attention.

The prosecution of the sisal industry proved to be of great benefit to the inhabitants of Savannah Sound, Palmetto Point, and James's Cistern.

At Rock Sound the acreage in tomato cultivation was doubled, but at Tarpum Bay the industry was not carried on to such an extent as formerly.

Exuma.—The area of land under sisal cultivation was about 2,400 acres. The quantity of fibre shipped to Nassau was 330 tons approximately.

The Island is well adapted for stock-raising and there are four farms in the District.

Grand Bahama.—Notwithstanding the prolonged drought, fair food crops were reaped. The area under cultivation of sisal was increased.

Large catches of turtle were made for which good prices were obtained.

Sponging was prosecuted with vigour, but the prices realised were disappointing.

Harbour Island.—The trade of the District continued to flourish. The local schooners again made profitable voyages the gross earnings amounting to £15,586.

The cultivation of the soil was pursued with energy, and good prices were paid both locally and at Nassau for every article of produce.

Inagua.—Only three ships of the Raporel Steamship Company touched at the Island during the year for the purpose of obtaining stevedores. The pay rolls amounted to £438.

The quantity of salt exported was 55,731 bushels valued at £1,039.

Long Cay.—Large areas were added to the cultivation of sisal, which is the staple product of the District.

Food crops consisting of Indian and guinea corn, peas, beans, sweet potatoes, etc., flourished.

Long Island.—Sisal continued to be the mainstay of the population.

The area under cultivation of food crops was doubled.

Hundreds of bunches of bananas and plantains were shipped to Nassau and brought good prices.

Ragged Island.—There was no direct trade with Hayti during the year. A cargo of 6,500 bushels of coarse salt was sent to Jamaica, and 7,522 bushels were shipped to Miami.

A good market for agricultural products was found in the neighbouring Islands.

The output of sisal was 4,400 lb. as against 37,000 lb. during the previous year.

Rum Cay.—Agriculture was more prosperous than in the previous year. The corn crop was increased 700 per cent.

Sisal and cattle were exported.

San Salvador (Arthurs Town).—The quantity of sisal exported—301,000 lb.—was less by 64,000 lb. than the shipments for 1919.

The cultivation of the coconut commanded attention.

San Salvador (The Bight).—Owing to the low prices ruling for sisal, more attention was given to the production of food crops.

Wallings.—The production of sisal continued to be the principal industry in the District, but the acreage in food crops was extended.

Live-stock valued at £225 was exported to Nassau.

Administration.

Mr. F. C. Wells Durrant, K. C., Attorney-General, administered the Government from the 3rd to the 22nd February, 1920, during the illness of Sir William Allardyce, K.C.M.G., and again from the 23rd February to the 8th April, consequent on the departure from the Colony of Sir William Allardyce, on his appointment to be Governor of Tasmania. Mr. H. E. W. Grant, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government from the 9th April to the 7th December.

Major (now Sir Harry) Cordeaux, K.C.M.G., C.B., on his appointment to be Governor of the Bahamas, assumed the administration of the Government on the 8th December.

H. E. W. GRANT,
Colonial Secretary.

Nassau, Bahamas.

24th September, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1060	British Solomon Islands	1919-1920
1061	Seychelles	"
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent.. .. .	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
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1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland.. .. .	1920-1921
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1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent.. .. .	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute.. .. .	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute.. .. .	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent.. .. .	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate.. .. .	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

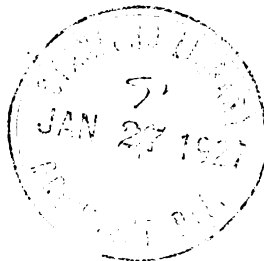
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No. 1096.

NYASALAND.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For previous Report see No. 1075.)



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NYASALAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.*

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL.

BOUNDARIES.

The territory comprised in the Nyasaland Protectorate is a strip about 520 miles in length and varying from 50 to 100 miles in width. It lies approximately between latitude S. 9° 45' and 17° 16', and longitude E. 33° and 36°. The area is roughly 40,000 square miles, or about one-third the area of the British Isles. The most southerly portion of the Protectorate is about 130 miles from the sea as the crow flies.

This strip falls naturally into two divisions: (1) consisting of the western shore of Lake Nyasa, with the high tablelands separating it from the basin of the Loangwa river in Northern Rhodesia, and (2) the region lying between the watershed of the Zambesi river and Shire river on the west, and the Lakes Chiuta and Chilwa and the River Ruu, an affluent of the Shire, on the east, including the mountain systems of the Shire Highlands and Mlanje, and a small portion, also mountainous, of the south-eastern coast of Lake Nyasa.

The Protectorate has for boundaries:—

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| On the East | Lake Nyasa (on the eastern shore of which lie Tanganyika Territory, formerly German East Africa, and Portuguese East Africa). |
| On the South | Portuguese Zambesia. |
| On the West | Portuguese Angoniland, North-Eastern Rhodesia (under the British South Africa Company's administration). |
| On the North | Tanganyika Territory. |

The limits of the Protectorate were laid down in a Proclamation dated 14th May, 1891, and the respective spheres of influence of Great Britain, Germany and Portugal were defined in an Agreement with Germany in July, 1890, and in a treaty with Portugal in June, 1891.

* A map of the Protectorate will be found in the Report for 1912-13, No. 172 [Cd. 7050-13].

The administrative area includes a concession at Chinde, leased from the Portuguese Government, on which merchandise for British territory is transhipped free of all Portuguese duties. The Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into three Provinces, the Southern, Central, and Northern, each of which is in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. Each Province is sub-divided into Districts in the charge of Residents.

The chief towns are Blantyre, with about 300 European inhabitants, and Zomba, the seat of the Government.

HISTORICAL.

Very little is known of the history of the region now called Nyasaland before the middle of the past century. Jasper Bocarro, a Portuguese, is said to have been the first European to visit Nyasaland; he appears to have travelled early in the 17th century from the Zambesi to the junction of the Ruo and Shire Rivers, and thence via Lake Shirwa and the Lujenda River to the coast at Mikandani.

The real history of Nyasaland begins with the advent of Dr. Livingstone, who, in 1859, after many years of travel and preparation, was placed at the head of a well-equipped Government expedition with the object of completing his previous researches on the Zambesi. Livingstone had heard reports of the great Lake from which the Shire was said to flow, and determined to find it. After experiencing considerable difficulty in ascending the Shire he discovered Lakes Shirwa and Pamalombe, and on the 16th September, 1859, reached the southern shore of Lake Nyasa. The name of the lake was recorded as Nyasa by Livingstone, that being its Yao appellation, signifying "broad water," and synonymous with the word Nyanza used further north. Livingstone was closely followed by a Mission under Bishop Mackenzie, sent out by the two English Universities. The Mission settled in the Shire Highlands, but on account of loss of its members by sickness and otherwise, it withdrew in 1862. It was subsequently re-established in 1881 on Lake Nyasa, with headquarters at Likoma, where it still remains.

In 1874 the Livingstonia Mission, named in honour of the great explorer, was founded by the Free Church of Scotland. The first party of missionaries was sent out in 1875, taking with it a small steamer, in sections, for use on the lake. They were joined in 1876 by the pioneers of the Church of Scotland Mission, who chose the site of the present town of Blantyre, and established themselves in the Shire Highlands, while the Free Church applied itself to the evangelization of the inhabitants of the shores of Lake Nyasa.

In 1883 the increasing British settlement in Nyasaland induced H.M. Government to appoint a Consul, and Captain Foot, R.N., went in that capacity to Blantyre, taking as his private

secretary Mr. D. Rankin, who afterwards discovered the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi.

A serious danger had arisen in connection with Arab slave traders who had settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa. At the time of Livingstone's first visit, he found the Arabs established in a few places on what is now the Portuguese shore of the lake, and at Kota-Kota, on the west side, where there was a settlement under the control of a functionary called a "Jumbe"—a coast Arab and a representative of the Sultan of Zanzibar, who claimed authority over the Arabs wandering in those regions. Arab caravans, trading with the tribes in and beyond the valley of the Loangwa, were in the habit of crossing the lake on their way to and from the sea coast. In course of time these Arab traders established themselves in strong stockades in the Wa Senga country, and then adopted an alternative caravan route overland at the head of the lake. This brought them into contact with the Wankonde, inhabiting a fertile district on the north-west of Nyasa, and eventually a Zanzibar Arab named Mlozi, who had begun by trading in the country, proceeded to surround his trading stations with stockades with a view to taking forcible possession of the district.

About the time of Mlozi's settlement in the Nkonde country, the African Lakes Company had obtained a footing at Karonga for the purpose of opening up communication with Lake Tanganyika, and their agents, in endeavouring to interpose between the Wankonde and Mlozi, were drawn into a conflict with the Arabs, who attacked and besieged Karonga. The Arab attack was eventually repulsed after desperate fighting, and later, on the arrival of reinforcements, Mlozi's stockade at Mpata was attacked and partially destroyed. The success of this and subsequent hostilities early in the following year was, however, rendered incomplete owing to the vacillation of the native allies of the British. A fresh attempt to break up Mlozi's power was made in 1888, by a force of natives under Captain Lugard and other volunteers, but, though a good deal of damage was done to the Arabs, it was found impossible to bring the war to a satisfactory conclusion without the aid of disciplined troops and efficient artillery, and after several months of intermittent fighting, Captain Lugard left Nyasaland in the spring of 1889. During this period, in November, 1888, an envoy was sent by the Sultan of Zanzibar, at the instance of Sir C. Euan-Smith, H.M. Consul-General, to endeavour to compel the Arabs to come to terms with the British, but the mission proved fruitless as the Arabs declined to recognise the Sultan's authority.

In the autumn of 1889, Mr. (now Sir) H. H. Johnston, H.M. Consul at Moçambique, arrived in Nyasaland, and on the 22nd October concluded a treaty with Mlozi, who undertook to desist from further encroachment against the Wankonde, and peace was restored.

The future of Nyasaland assumed an entirely new aspect on the discovery of a navigable entrance to the Zambesi by the Chinde mouth. This opened up a direct waterway to the Shire districts, and disposed of the obstacle to the development of the country, hitherto caused by its only means of approach being overland through Portuguese territory. Two other events at this time also directed attention to Nyasaland and the possibilities connected with it, one being the application for a Charter by the British South Africa Company, and the other the despatch of an imposing expedition under Major Serpa Pinto, destined, according to the Portuguese Government, to proceed to the Upper Zambesi and Lower Loangwa.

In the summer of 1889, Mr. Johnston arrived at Moçambique to take up the duties of British Consul in Portuguese East Africa, and proceeded, as arranged previous to his departure from England, to travel in the interior with a view to reporting on the troubles with the Arabs.

Near Chiromo, Mr. Johnston came up with Major Serpa Pinto's expedition, consisting of a large native force and a European staff, which had been deflected northwards after traversing the Lower Zambesi. Major Serpa Pinto informed Mr. Johnston that his mission was of a scientific nature, and that he was on his way to Lake Nyasa, and requested the British Consul's good offices to secure him from molestation by the Makololo people through whose district his route lay. In reply, he was advised by Mr. Johnston that the passage of so large a force was in itself likely to provoke hostilities, and was further warned that any political action on his part, north of the Ruvo, would oblige Mr. Johnston to take steps to protect British interests.

Mr. Johnston, during his progress up the Lake, induced the Jumbe of Kota-Kota to place his country under British protection, and on arriving at Karonga arranged similar treaties with Mlozi and other Arab and Wahenga chiefs, after which he proceeded to Lake Tanganyika. On his return, an agreement was made with Mponda, a Yao chief at the south end of the Lake. During the period from 1889 to as late as 1898, frequent punitive expeditions had to be organised against various recalcitrant chiefs who had opposed the introduction of British rule or, having accepted it, had sought to throw it off. Among these may be mentioned Makanjira, Zarafi, Kawinga, Mpeseni, and Gomani. Such expeditions and the use of military force must be regarded as incidental to the settlement of an uncivilised country and the disturbance of despotic rules.

In the summer of that year an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharpe, and other pioneers of British Central Africa, and in the following spring a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Nyasa was proclaimed. Mr. Johnston was appointed as the first Commissioner and Consul-General on 1st February, 1891, and, for nearly five

years, also administered the British South Africa Company's sphere north of the Zambesi. Until 1910, the British South Africa Company continued to furnish an annual contribution to the expenses of the Protectorate, for police and other services rendered in what is now North Eastern Rhodesia. On the 22nd February, 1893, the name of the Protectorate was changed to the British Central Africa Protectorate.

In December, 1902, a contract was entered into with the Shire Highlands Railway Company, Ltd., for the construction of a line of railway from Chiromo to Blantyre (subsequently extended to Port Herald) to overcome transport difficulties on the Shire river. In 1915, owing to the continued fall in the level of Lake Nyasa and flow of water of the Shire, the Central African Railway was opened, connecting Port Herald with Chindio on the Zambesi, making a total length of 174 miles. The Trans-Zambesi railway connecting Beira with the Zambesi opposite Chindio is now under construction and is expected to be opened for traffic in March, 1922.

In July, 1907, a new constitution was granted to Nyasaland which changed the name of the Protectorate from "British Central Africa" to "Nyasaland," and provided for the appointment of a "Governor and Commander-in-Chief" in lieu of "Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief," and the establishment of Executive and Legislative Councils, the latter to include both official and unofficial members to be nominated by the Crown.

Two sessions of the Legislative Council are held annually, in March and September, and on such other occasions as are found necessary for the enactment of legislation of an urgent nature.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

POPULATION.

The European population is approximately 1,000 males and 500 females; the native population 545,000 males and 655,000 females, and the Indian population 500 males and 60 females.

HEALTH.

The health of the Protectorate during the year 1920 was, on the whole, good; there was a marked decline in the returns of cases of small-pox, which fell to less than one-half as compared with the previous year, and there has been no recrudescence of influenza in epidemic form, though the occurrence of catarrhal affections reported from one or two areas may have been of this nature.

The admission rates for venereal diseases, however, exhibit a steady rise as compared with previous years, and steps are now being taken to deal with this class of complaints by the opening of special hospitals for their reception and treatment.

Diphtheria has been of very rare occurrence in past years, but five cases with one death were reported during 1920.

Of insect-borne diseases, trypanosomiasis is endemic in the Protectorate; the disease, however, is almost entirely confined to the Dowa and Marimba districts.

Tick-fever is fairly prevalent in the Lake districts, but is only rarely met with in other areas.

There were no cases of plague during the year, and it is hoped that the measures which have been adopted will result in the stamping out of the disease. More than three millions of rats have been destroyed during the past four years in the affected area, which is a small one at the north end of the lake.

Leprosy, though not common, appears to be widely spread, and attention is being directed to the segregation of cases in their own villages.

The foregoing are diseases which call for special notice among the native population.

As regards Europeans, malaria is the principal ailment and black-water cases occur; but gastro-intestinal disorders and muscular rheumatism (fibrositis) are fairly prevalent. There were only two cases of enteric fever and one of paratyphoid reported during the year. Dysentery cannot be said to be common and is chiefly of the bacillary type.

The Government maintains at Zomba, Blantyre, and Fort Johnston, hospitals for reception of European patients at which midwifery cases are taken. There are also hospitals at some stations for treatment of natives. Much medical work in the Protectorate is performed by various mission bodies.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

During the year, 913 Europeans arrived and 506 left the Protectorate; 33 Indians arrived and 37 left; and 3,533 natives returned while 6,099 left. Europeans in Nyasaland proceed frequently, on an average about once in three years, to Europe, or to a temperate climate elsewhere for the purpose of recuperating health. Natives leave the Protectorate in large numbers for South Africa, where more highly paid work than they are able to find locally attracts them. They are there employed principally in mining, agricultural, and domestic work.

AGRICULTURE.

Europeans not in the Public Service or engaged in missionary work are employed principally in agriculture or trade. The most important crops grown are tobacco, cotton, tea, and fibre. The high prices for tobacco obtained in the previous year led to an influx of European planters, of whom many were married officers who had served in the War, with the intention of growing

tobacco. The year under review has been an unfortunate one for them and others, by reason of stagnation of markets and a fall in prices. When conditions become normal there is every prospect that tobacco and cotton will be produced in large quantities and that with due attention to cultivation and grading, and with increased transport facilities, they will find a profitable market. Tobacco grown in the Protectorate is granted on import into the United Kingdom a preference over foreign tobacco of one shilling and fourpence per lb.

Practically all varieties of vegetables and many of the cereals grown in temperate climates will grow well in various parts of the Protectorate. Cattle and sheep are raised also, but they are subject to diseases which call for measures the expense of which may render it advisable to embark, with caution on any industry solely connected with cattle or sheep-breeding. With internal facilities and reduction of cost of production the Protectorate may well become self-supporting, so far as food supplies are concerned.

TRADE.

The trade of the Protectorate, apart from goods imported for sale to Europeans, is principally that of cotton goods, blankets, hoes, and salt for natives. The bulk of this native trade is in the hands of Indians, but European firms maintain stores at important centres and are largely concerned in the wholesale trade. The very high price of cotton goods which the native is not now able to pay, has resulted in heavy stocks accumulating which are not likely to be sold at present prices. Until prices drop there is no likelihood of any great improvement in the present position. As native requirements expand and as the demand for manufactured articles increases, the trade of the Protectorate will benefit, but there is not at present any marked prospect of rapid development, and the natives are using largely skins and bark cloth.

LABOUR.

The native male population is 545,000, of which, approximately 300,000 are adults, including aged and infirm. The area cultivated by Europeans under cotton, tobacco, tea, rubber, and fibre, which are the principal crops, is roughly 50,000 acres. It is difficult to estimate the area cultivated by natives for production of foodstuffs for the whole native population of 1,200,000, but as the principal crop grown is maize, it must be extensive and may be put at not less than 900,000 acres. During 1920, an average number of 14,000 Nyasaland natives was employed on the Rhodesian mines. A number were engaged also for the

construction of the Trans-Zambesi railway. It is estimated that at least 20,000 adult males are employed annually outside the Protectorate. Much of the local transport is performed by native carriers and a further 20,000 men at least are occupied on this service. As better means of transport are introduced, this number will become available for other work. The average number of natives employed on various public works is probably 2,500. It is estimated that each acre cultivated by Europeans requires one native constantly employed, but as natives work generally only for three or four months in each year, three to four men per acre are required. The usual wages paid to agricultural labourers is 6s. a month with food if they are not resident on the estates. In addition, medical attention is provided and some cost is incurred for recruitment of the labourers and for their transport. It may safely be estimated that the monthly cost for agricultural labour is not less than 8s. Although the native population appears to be relatively high, with the attractiveness of wages outside the labour problem within the Protectorate is growing more difficult.

CRIME.

A legacy of the War has been an increase in native crime, chiefly highway robbery and larceny cases. Native carriers have been attacked and their loads stolen, and stores raided and private houses entered. A reorganisation of the Police under European officers in four of the principal districts was effected during 1920, and has had a marked effect in the repression of crime, especially of a predatory character.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The Government financial year covers the period 1st April-31st March, while this report in other respects deals with the calendar year. The actual figures of revenue and expenditure for the financial year 1920-1921 are not yet available, so that in respect of that period the figures given below are partly estimated.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
	£		£	
1916/17	*148,284	.. ..	128,272	
1917/18	144,239	.. ..	143,639	
1918/19	187,645	.. ..	150,198	
1919/20	186,927	.. ..	217,669	
1920/21	268,000	.. ..	262,000	

*Augmented by an Imperial grant in aid of £10,150.

The excess of assets over liabilities at the 31st March in each year was as follows :—

				£
31st March, 1917	..	..	..	62,359
" " 1918	..	..	..	62,959
" " 1919	..	..	..	100,406
" " 1920	..	..	..	69,674
" " 1921 (partly estimated)	..			97,000

The Public Debt was :—

				£	
31st March, 1917	177,434	} Excluding War Loans.
" " 1918	..	..	..	192,800
" " 1919	..	..	..	192,890
" " 1920	..	..	..	211,890
" " 1921 (partly estimated)	..			209,387	

Of the amount of public debt as on 31st March, 1921, £172,190 1s. 3d. represents the amount still due to the Imperial Treasury against sums advanced for the purpose of redeeming lands originally granted to the Shire Highlands Railway in connection with construction of the line from Port Herald to Blantyre. These lands were repurchased by the Government for £180,800, which sum was advanced by the Imperial Government. A sinking fund of 1 per cent. was created from which the loan will be repaid. The contribution to sinking fund with interest at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent forms a charge against the revenue of the Protectorate. The balance of the public debt consists of part of a loan granted by the Imperial Government for the construction of roads and railways in the Protectorate. So far, only £40,000 has been received, which has been reduced by sinking fund contribution to £39,700 7s. 6d. Interest and sinking fund at 4 per cent. and 1 per cent. respectively are charged to general revenue.

In addition to its Public Debt the Protectorate is liable for guaranteed interest on the Central Africa and Trans-Zambesi Railways, in the latter case to the extent of 6 per cent. on £1,200,000. In the former case the guarantee, 4 per cent. on £500,000, expires in 1923. The guarantee in respect of the Trans-Zambesi Railway takes effect from 1st April, 1921, and continues for 25 years.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

The value of imports and exports during each of the last five years was as follows :—

Year.		Imports.		Exports.
		£		£
1916		278,147	.. ..	284,881
1917		411,549	.. ..	158,324
1918		516,680	.. ..	485,052
1919		608,788	.. ..	453,251
1920		507,573	.. ..	670,072

Goods in transit, specie, and goods imported by the Government are not included.

The falling-off in value of imports is due to restricted trade in cotton goods, large quantities of which are usually imported for native trade. The cost during 1920 was so high that natives could not afford to purchase cloth and in many instances they have reverted to the use of bark cloth or skins. Imports of food, drink, and tobacco rose from £64,666 in 1919 to £95,490 in 1920. Speaking generally trade in goods imported for European use improved to a considerable extent. As means of communication improve and if the cost of petrol falls to a reasonable figure, there will be considerable demand for motor vehicles of all kinds. The demand for agricultural implements is increasing, although most of the cultivation is still done by hand. The native of Nyasaland is very conservative in his methods of cultivation; and when he is engaged on European estates it is difficult to persuade him to use any other implement than a short-handled hoe. The value of agricultural implements imported amounted to £37,499 in 1920 compared with £19,908 in 1919, that of hardware in 1920 was £47,318 and of vehicles £29,259, compared with £26,740 and £9,618 respectively in the previous year.

The United Kingdom supplied 65·5 per cent. of the total imports; Portuguese East Africa 18·3 per cent.; British Possessions 12·7 per cent., and foreign countries 3·5 per cent.

The following are the principal exports, with quantities exported, in each of the last three years:—

	1918.		1919.		1920.
	lb.		lb.		lb.
Cotton ..	2,630,026	..	1,285,334	..	913,718
Tobacco ..	6,060,852	..	4,565,579	..	4,963,130
Tea..	355,788	..	879,010	..	496,830
Fibre ..	344,238	..	594,364	..	290,822
Rubber ..	53,679	..	121,128	..	128,253
Coffee ..	122,715	..	177,710	..	64,362

Soil and climatic conditions are most suitable for the cultivation of cotton and tobacco. Nyasaland has earned an enviable reputation for its cotton, and with care in the selection of seed and cultivation so as to maintain a suitable staple there are, when prices improve as they should soon do, great possibilities, both of largely increased cultivation and of good returns to growers. The acreage under cotton has decreased from 29,578 acres in 1915 to 18,274 acres in 1920, but this reduction is largely due to cotton land being used for tobacco owing to the better prices obtained for tobacco during the War. The yield per acre of lint varied from 114 lb. in one district to 32 lb. in another district, but with proper care in the selection of land high yields may be expected.

The acreage under tobacco rose from 4,507 acres in 1911 to 14,218 acres in 1920. Nyasaland tobacco is admitted by British manufacturers to be the only Empire-grown tobacco that competes successfully with certain grades of Virginia tobacco. The burning quality of local tobacco, with its high percentage of potash and low quality of chlorine, is excellent, but substance or body is said to be lacking. A series of fertiliser experiments is contemplated which should throw light on the possibilities of producing this property by the supply of various food plants.

With the Imperial preference of one shilling and fourpence per lb., to which reference has been made above; with care in cultivation and grading; and with assistance from British manufacturers in finding a market for the tobacco, there is every reason to anticipate a very large extension of tobacco cultivation in Nyasaland with prices which should yield a profitable return to cultivators.

The tea industry is confined practically to the south-eastern portion of the Mlanje district. The low price which tea fetches at present in the markets is a deterrent to any expansion and the acreage under tea decreased from 4,840 acres in 1919 to 4,285 acres in 1920.

The acreage under Para rubber increased from 500 to 1,200 acres and that under sisal hemp from 2,290 to 3,830 acres; but these crops, together with coffee, chillies, capsicums, ground-nuts, and wheat occupy, at present, positions only of minor importance.

Large areas of maize, which forms their principal foodstuff, are grown by natives. This plant grows luxuriantly and yields abundantly in many districts. Given suitable means of transport at reasonable cost maize should form here, as is the case in Rhodesia, a profitable crop for export.

Cotton and tobacco are also grown by natives. If a steady, remunerative price, instead of greatly fluctuating prices, could be assured, there are great possibilities in the production of cotton by the natives, who, in many cases, produce good crops and grade well. Sun-cured tobacco is produced by natives and the better grades are of very good quality.

LAND.

The total acreage of the Protectorate is 25,161,924 acres. Of this area, 3,705,255 acres have been alienated under certificates of claim which vest the freehold in the claimants. Of the remainder, 177,478 acres had been sold or leased up to the end of 1919, while 81,553 acres were leased during 1920. The question of land to be set aside for European and native occupation and the conditions on which such occupancy should be allowed have recently been considered by a Special Commission appointed by the Governor for the purpose. The report is now under consideration.

Except in very special cases Crown lands are not sold but leased. Leases are for 21 years, unless the land is required for slow-growing crops such as tea, coffee, and rubber, when leases for 99 years may be granted. At present, applicants generally select by examination the land of which a lease is sought. The lease is then put up to auction, but bidding is confined to applicants approved by Government. The rental per annum varies from 2s. to 1s. an acre for agricultural land (subject to revision at fixed periods) to 2d. per acre for grazing land. Yearly tenancies for store sites are granted without auction, generally at a rental of £5. Lessees are required to pay cost of survey. In 1918 eleven leases were granted, in 1919 sixty-one, and in 1920, one hundred and forty-three. Rents derived from leases in those years were £3,025, £3,586, and £11,920, respectively.

During 1920 the British Central Africa Company acquired an area of 3,000 acres at Chikwawa for cotton-growing and, in connection with this and other areas under cultivation by it in the district, is installing ginning machinery and cotton-pressing and baling machinery.

Land when sold may be valued as under :—

<i>District.</i>					<i>Value per acre.</i>
Blantyre and Zomba	..	..	..	..	£3 to £5
Mlanje	..	..	..	..	£3 to £5
Cholo	..	..	..	..	£2 to £4
Chiromo	..	..	..	..	£1 10s. to £2 10s.
Ncheu	..	..	..	..	£1
Namweras	..	..	..	..	£1

NATURAL RESOURCES.

FORESTRY.

The Protectorate is generally well covered with scrubby forest consisting mainly of small, broad-leaved, evergreen species, which rarely attain a diameter of more than 8 inches. In the Shire Highlands and other densely inhabited localities large tracts of the wooded areas have been cleared, both by Europeans and natives, for agriculture. Broad-leaved trees of large dimensions are found along the banks of streams in many parts of the country, the most valuable species being the African mahogany (*Khaya senegalensis*). A strip of land extending to 30 yards from the banks of streams, is generally reserved by the Government.

A Forest Ordinance exists under which the most valuable species are reserved. Natives are allowed to utilize forest produce, other than reserved species, without a permit provided that such produce is not sold or alienated to a non-native.

The Forestry Division at present confines its control to the districts of Zomba, Blantyre, and Mlanje, and collects the

royalties on produce cut and removed under permits issued by it in those districts. In other districts this control is exercised by the respective residents.

On the Mlanje Plateau, at an altitude ranging from 4,000 to 7,000 feet, there are several small natural forests of Mlanje cypress (*Widdringtonia Whytei*). This is the most valuable building timber in the Protectorate and is largely used by the Public Works Department. These patches of forest, which are confined to the ravines and cover an area of about 2,000 acres in the aggregate, may be said to be the only area of really large timbered forest in the country.

These areas were, during the year, subjected to fire protection by means of hoeing and burning fire-lines, and the area clear-felled during the previous year was planted up with Mlanje cypress and *Cupressus torulosa*.

Existing plantations, which are situated in the Zomba, Blantyre, and Mlanje districts, and have a total area of about 900 acres, were subjected to cleaning and thinning operations, also fire protection. All blanks in the newer plantations caused by failures were replanted. These were particularly numerous in the Mlanje Plateau Plantations, due to the severe frost experienced in June and July.

New areas were planted up at the above-mentioned places to the extent of 45 acres.

The chief species favoured were *Eucalyptus saligna*, *E. rostrata*, *E. punctata*, *E. terreticornis*, *Cedrela toona*, *Khaya senegalensis* (African Mahogany) at the lower elevations, and on the Zomba plateaux, *Widdringtonia Whytei* (Mlanje cypress), *Cupressus torulosa*, and *Callitris robusta*, all of these having proved most successful in the experimental plots at the Zomba arboretum and elsewhere.

Experimental planting was continued near the shore of Lake Nyasa at the Bar, Fort Johnston, and also along the banks of the River Shire in that locality.

Large areas were planted up on private and leasehold estates by planters and others, and advice was given by the Forest authority when applied for.

In all leases of Government land for agricultural purposes a condition is now inserted whereby a percentage of the cultivated area must be planted with forest trees by the lessees.

A considerable quantity of various species of tree-seed was sold at cost price by the Department during the year.

Royalties on forest-produce brought in a revenue of £2,283 (approximately) and the sum of £184 was received on the sale of poles from plantations at Zomba and Blantyre.

VETERINARY.

The most important features of the year's progress, so far as livestock are concerned, was the importation by Government of pedigree cattle of the Aberdeen Angus, Ayrshire, and Sussex breeds, as well as a consignment of Berkshire pigs.

These animals were imported with a view not only to introducing these breeds, but in order to grade up the native livestock.

The Aberdeen Angus breed has been already proved a suitable one for crossing with the native cattle, the offspring being hardy and capable of living under the conditions to which the native cattle of the Protectorate are accustomed.

The Ayrshire cattle it is hoped will produce offspring with the native cattle with improved milking capacity, and as the breed is known to be a hardy one it is expected that they will be able to withstand the local climatic conditions of the highlands of the Protectorate.

The Sussex strain is expected to give crosses with selected native cows, suitable for transport and agricultural work. It is proposed to import animals of the Indian Zebu types from India, and as these have already been found to impress their good qualities in crossing with native stock, good results are anticipated as a result of the proposed importations.

In the early part of the year a consignment of boars and sows of the Berkshire breed was imported by Government and these have already proved themselves prolific, and it is hoped that settlers will use those European strains to produce what is the most profitable animal of the farmyard if properly tended.

Owing to the diseases of stock to which Nyasaland is subject and the increasing number of settlers, it is necessary to consider all the means that science and practical experience afford to protect the stock from disease and to raise them by the most profitable means.

The cattle industry in Nyasaland, as in any African colony, depends entirely on the possibility of protecting animals from the endemic diseases as well as excluding other epizootic diseases.

In the tsetse-fly infected areas it is impossible to keep cattle, owing to their becoming infected with trypanosomiasis, which is transmitted by these flies, but in all other parts of the Protectorate cattle can be kept, providing dipping facilities are available to protect them from the various diseases carried by ticks.

FISHERIES.

Considerable supplies of fish are obtained from Lake Nyasa and Lake Shirwa. The industry is mainly in the hands of natives, who catch the fish and sun-dry them for sale to natives in other parts of the Protectorate.

Fresh fish, in limited quantities, are eaten by Europeans living near the shores of Lake Nyasa and Lake Shirwa and near rivers.

WATER POWER.

Water-power is utilized by the Government for the generation of electric light and power for use in Zomba.

Private persons in various districts use water-power for running saw-mills, grinding meal, ginning cotton, and preparing sisal fibre for the market.

MANUFACTURES.

In the strict sense of the term there are no industrial establishments or manufactures in the Protectorate. Furniture, baskets, etc., are made at the Missions and elsewhere; mats and pottery are made by natives in certain districts; chimanga meal and beer are prepared by natives throughout the Protectorate for their own use.

There are 14 cotton ginneries which handled during the year 10,267 cwt. of lint cotton, and 4,715 cwt. of tea were manufactured in the Mlanje district.

BANKS.

The legal currency is British sterling and there are no bank note or Government currency note issues in circulation.

The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, opened a branch at Blantyre in 1900, and in 1918 the National Bank of South Africa, Limited, took over the business of the African Lakes Corporation. Both banks now have branches at Zomba and Blantyre and at several important centres. Recently, both banks have opened Savings Bank branches.

There is also the Post Office Savings Bank with branches at Zomba, Blantyre, Port Herald, Fort Johnston, Kofa-Kota, and Karonga. Interest on deposits is paid at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The number of accounts open at the 31st December, 1920, was 409, a decrease of 29 on the previous year; the amount standing to the credit of depositors was £5,981.

LEGISLATION.

The principal legislation passed during the year was an Ordinance providing for payment by natives of a hut or poll tax of 6s. a year, in lieu of the former rate of 8s., with a reduction to 4s. if the native had worked for one month for a European during the year; an Ordinance giving power to the Governor

to order the closing of shops in any district or township or part thereof on Sundays or Public holidays and after certain hours ; and an Ordinance providing for the licensing and control of motor vehicles and traffic.

EDUCATION.

Education both of Europeans and natives is confined to schools provided by Mission authorities. Eleven Missions are represented in Nyasaland and there are some 2,000 schools, at which over 100,000 children are on the school rolls. At some of these institutions education is entirely free ; at others small fees are charged. A grant of £2,000 towards the maintenance of schools was made from public funds. Technical education is given in some cases and much good work has been, and is being, done, but the standard of literary education is, generally speaking, very low. So far the Government has not established schools or training institutions, but it is hoped that some system of education approved by the Government will be established. As a rule, European children are sent out of the Protectorate as soon as they reach school age.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Nyasaland in its essential features is similar to that of the rest of Eastern Africa within the tropics.

The climate is necessarily diversified in various districts owing to variations in latitude, altitude, and general configuration of the terrain, presence or absence of rivers, forests, etc. The South East Monsoon commences to blow strongly in September, in conjunction with the sun's increase in southerly declination, and the first rains may be expected any time after mid-October ; from their commencement to the end of December it is usual to experience violent thunderstorms and heavy precipitation in a few hours, followed by an interval varying from one to fifteen or twenty days of intense heat. With the return of the sun from its southern limit of declination, the thunderstorms diminish in intensity and frequency, and are replaced by steady rain—January and February being usually the wettest months as regard duration of rainfall as well as actual amount. After March the frequency and intensity of rainfall diminishes rapidly, and from April to September the climate is comparatively cool and dry.

It is convenient from a climatic point of view to divide the country into three sections.

The first may be classed as the Shire Valley and Lake Nyasa, where the elevation varies from 200 to 1,500 feet, and the average rainfall does not exceed 30 inches in the more open portions. Where the mountains make the valley narrower, or where they closely approach the Lake shore, the rainfall is naturally heavier. The maximum shade temperatures before the rains

frequently exceed 108° Fahr., whilst in the cold season the temperature near water often drops to below 40° Fahr., in the early morning—far lower than is experienced at elevations of 2,000-3,000 feet. This feature is frequently a disadvantage in connection with late-planted cotton.

The second, or Shire Highlands climate, may be roughly described as that experienced in the districts of Zomba, Blantyre, and Mlanje at an elevation of 2,500-3,000 feet; the average rainfall amounts to about 60 inches, the maximum temperature in the shade rarely exceeds 95° Fahr., and the minimum may fall occasionally to 45° in the cold season. When the elevation is greater, and in proximity to the various mountain ranges such as Mlanje, Zomba, Chiradzulu, the climate is different, and on the sides of the mountains facing the prevailing winds, the rainfall may be over 80 inches annually, decreasing gradually to 40 or 30 inches on the sides sheltered from the prevailing winds.

The third type of climate is experienced on the plateau, the apex of which forms the dividing line between the Shire-Nyasa, and the Loangwa-Zambesi drainage systems. The general precipitation is about 30 inches per annum, the temperatures are lower, and the atmospheric humidity is generally much less than in the zones previously mentioned; the elevation is extremely varied, and consequently wide difference is experienced at places within a few miles of one another.

The Shire Highlands climate, with well distributed rains and a moderately high degree of atmospheric humidity, coupled with temperatures free from extremes, is suitable for the cultivation of a greater variety of crops than the other two zones.

The Shire Valley—Lake Nyasa climate is more suited to crops which can stand extremes of drought and heat for long periods, whilst the plateau climate is particularly suitable for cattle-ranching.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Intending passengers from England can travel as follows:—

- (i.) Via Cape Town and then by rail to Beira and thence on by coasting steamer to Chinde.
- (ii.) Via Cape Town, Durban, Beira, to Chinde, all sea route.
- (iii.) Via East Coast, calling at Marseilles, Naples, Suez, Aden, Mombasa, Beira, transshipping at Beira to small coasting steamer for Chinde.

There are several steamship companies connecting with Cape Town, Beira, and Chinde, the principal being the Union-Castle Company, with their Head Office at 3 and 4, Fenchurch Street, London (this Company also runs a direct service viâ the East Coast of Africa—see No. iii., as above), and the Harrison Rennie Line, whose Head Office is at 4, East Indian Avenue, London, E.C. As fares and cargo freights fluctuate considerably

and are graded into various classes, intending passengers are recommended to communicate direct with either of the above Companies.

Chinde, the present port of entry for Nyasaland, is in Portuguese territory, situated on a sandspit at one of the mouths of the Zambesi. Communication with Beira is maintained by small coasting steamers, the time occupied on the voyage being between 16 and 24 hours according to the state of the tide and weather. There are two British companies engaged in the river transport between Chinde and Nyasaland, viz., the African Lakes Corporation, Limited (Head Office, 14, St. Vincent Place, Glasgow), and the British Central Africa Company (Head Office, 20, Abchurch Lane, London). Both these Companies are Agents for ocean steamship companies and intending passengers are recommended to communicate direct with them. There is one British hotel at Chinde, owned by the African Lakes Corporation, Limited.

From Chinde, passengers and cargo are conveyed by shallow-draught stern-wheel steamers to Chindio on the Zambesi, the time occupied by the journey in the wet season when the river is high, four days, and in the dry season anything from five to six days. At Chindio, passengers and cargo are landed, and here connect with the railway service to the Nyasaland Protectorate.

RAILWAYS.

Passengers and cargo are conveyed by a 3 ft. 6 in. gauge railway from Chindio to Blantyre, the commercial centre of the Protectorate, a distance of 174 miles. A railway is under construction between Beira and the south bank of the Zambesi, opposite Chindio, which will link up Nyasaland with the South African Railway system. Until a bridge is constructed across the Zambesi, connection with Chindio on the north bank will be effected by a steam ferry.

The opening of this railway will greatly facilitate transport to and from the Protectorate; it will eliminate long and expensive delays with transshipment at Beira and at Chinde, as well as the tedious journey on the Zambesi. It is expected that the journey by rail from Beira to Blantyre will be accomplished in about 34 hours against 6 or 7 days now occupied under most favourable circumstances by the route *viâ* Chinde and the Zambesi.

The construction of an extension of the railway from Luchenza, a station on the existing Chindio-Blantyre railway, to the south end of Lake Nyasa is under consideration. This railway will connect Lake Nyasa and countries bordering it with the railway communications referred to.

Lake Nyasa is another most important line of communication. In length about 360 miles, with a width of 20 to 50 miles, it serves the western and northern areas of Nyasaland, parts of

Portuguese East Africa and Tanganyika territory (formerly German East Africa). The connection of the lake with the railway system to Beira and South Africa is expected to lead to considerable development of valuable land adjacent to it, now lying idle by reason of the difficulties and prohibitive cost of transport.

The Government has two steamers on Lake Nyasa, one of which ("Guendolen"), sails monthly from Fort Johnston, calling at all Lake ports, but carrying Government cargo and passengers only. Two trading steamers owned by the African Lakes Corporation, Limited, make regular voyages round the Lake and the Universities' Mission to Central Africa have two steam vessels engaged in their work. There are also a few dhows engaged in trading along the Lake shores.

The average speed of the steamers is about 6 miles an hour and generally they travel by day only. Hotel accommodation is to be procured at Fort Johnston.

ROADS.

In the circumstances of the country at the present time, Nyasaland may be said to be well served by road communications. Excellent metalled roads exist (1) between Blantyre and Limbe and Zomba, a distance of 45 miles; (2) from Blantyre for 12 miles through the Lunzu planting area in the direction of Matope on the river Shire; and (3) from Luchenza Station on the Shire Highlands Railway for 16 miles, tapping the Mlanje planting area. Other roads of the same character are in course of construction for facilitating the transport of produce to the railway from the chief industrial centres.

The other main line communications may be summarised as follows. They are earth or gravel surface roads, but while fair roads for their purpose in fine weather, little or no guarantee can be given as to their capacity in the wet season, when not only the surface is untrustworthy, but the ordinary bridges of timber may be swept away by floods.

In addition to these main roads there are many of the same character suitable in some cases for motor cars and light lorries, in others for cycles and side-cars making connection between the principal townships and tapping areas where there is considerable European settlement.

MEANS OF TRANSPORT.

On routes not suitable for motor traffic, car, or cycle, passengers are transported by *machila* (hammocks slung on poles), or *garetta* (a modified jinricksha) carried or drawn by natives. Ox wagon transport is feasible on many roads, or special roads for such vehicles are permitted to be made in areas free from the tsetse fly. Motor traffic has greatly developed in recent years, but is expensive on account of the high cost of

petrol. Investigations are proceeding as to the local production of a cheaper spirit. A large part of the Government transport (passengers and goods) is performed by this means as well as that of the planters and trading firms. Motor cars and light lorries may be hired at several of the important centres, the present tariff approximating to 3s. a ton mile for goods. Passenger rates are specially arranged having regard to the journey and time occupied.

POSTAL SERVICES.

Alteration in Postal Rates.—The rates of postage, Inland and Overseas, were raised as from the 1st September, 1920. The tariff on Inland letters and for letters to the United Kingdom and all British Colonies and Dependencies, and the Province of Moçambique is now as follows:—

Not exceeding 1 oz.	2d.
For every additional $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1d.

Letters to other parts of the world are charged a uniform rate of 2½d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Post Offices.—The number of Post Offices transacting public business on the 31st March, 1921, was 25.

Inland Mail Services.—A good inland mail service by rail, steamer, and carrier, is maintained between Zomba and Blantyre and the outlying districts, in some cases daily, or bi-weekly.

OCEAN MAIL SERVICES.

United Kingdom Service.—The steamer service between Chinde (office of exchange for Nyasaland) and Beira, through which port all overseas mails have to pass, is irregular. Opportunities presented themselves for the despatch of London mails on 65 occasions during 1920, an average of 5.4 per cent. per month. The mails are despatched from Beira to Cape Town by rail, there being a service twice weekly, and thence by the steamer of the Union-Castle Royal Mail Steamship Company, which maintains a weekly service. Mails from London were received by 47 steamers. Parcel mails are carried between the United Kingdom and Nyasaland by the steamers of the Ellerman-Harrison-Rennie Line, sailing at irregular intervals. They are transhipped at Beira to coasting steamers. Seventeen parcel mails were received by this service.

Direct Exchange with Moçambique Territory.—A Convention for the direct exchange of mails between Nyasaland and the Province of Moçambique (Portuguese East Africa) was arranged in October, 1920.

Money Orders.—Money Orders are issued at 18 Post Offices and cashed at 20 Offices. Arrangements for a direct exchange

of Money Orders have been concluded with the following Administrations :—

United Kingdom	Northern Rhodesia.
Union of South Africa	Southern Rhodesia.
India	Zanzibar.
Aden	Province of Moçambique.

Orders issued in other countries are negotiated through the intermediary of one or other of the countries above mentioned.

Postal Orders.—British Postal Orders are sold and paid at all Money Order Offices. The rates of poundage charged are as follows :—6d. to 2s. 6d.=2d., 3s. to 15s.=3d., 15s. 6d. to 21s.=4d. This useful form of remittance retains its popularity, especially among the native population. The value of Postal Orders paid increased from £7,000 to £14,800.

Telephones.—The telephone service in Nyasaland is so far restricted to an official installation at Zomba, connecting up the various Government Offices and the Camp (K.A.R. depôt).

Telegraphs.—The telegraphs are worked by the African Trans-continental Telegraph Company. Nyasaland is connected directly with Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Fort Jameson and Fife, Northern Rhodesia, and Tukuyu, Tanganyika Territory. The main trunk line connects Blantyre, Zomba, Fort Johnston, Domira Bay, Kota-Kota, Chinteché, Livingstonia, and Karonga. There is a branch line from Domira Bay, passing through Dowa to Fort Jameson. Blantyre is connected with Limbe, Mikolongwe, Luchenza (branch to Mlanje), Chiromo, Port Herald, and Chindio, (Portuguese Territory), by the telegraph line of the Shire Highlands.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1061	Seychelles	1919-1920
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

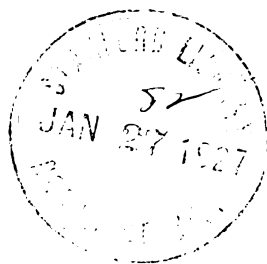
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1097.

WEIHAIWEI.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For report for 1919 see No. 1040.)



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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.*

FINANCE.

I. REVENUE.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to \$164,973·39 and the expenditure to \$235,445·36, whilst the grant-in-aid from Imperial funds was £20,000, the conversion of which into local currency at various rates of exchange produced \$129,596·83. When the Territory came under the Colonial Office in 1901-2, the revenue amounted to about \$20,000, the expenditure to \$120,000 and the grant-in-aid to £11,250. The revenue is, therefore, more than eight times as much as it was in 1901-2 and the expenditure is not quite double what it was, whilst the grant-in-aid up to 1919-20 has been reduced to an annual average of about £6,000.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Famine.

The chief event during the year was the occurrence of famine in the Territory. For three years the rainfall had been abnormally small and in 1919 the drought was so great that the crops were practically a failure. Early in the year it was discovered that many people in the Territory were without proper food and were living on the cobs of Indian corn, sweet potato runners, and other substitutes for food quite unfit for their proper nourishment. Steps were immediately taken to afford relief to the sufferers. It was found that these consisted of 10,000 destitute in a state of starvation, to whom free issues of grain had to be made, and 30,000 farmers and their families who applied to be supplied with grain on loan, undertaking to repay in October the advances made to them. A Famine Relief Committee, consisting of British and Chinese residents, was appointed, and Financial Purchasing and Distributing Sub-Committees were formed out of the General Committee. Local subscriptions were raised and appeals for assistance were made to the British and Chinese communities of Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin and other places. These appeals met with a most generous response, for

* A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914 [Cd. 7622-36].

which the whole of the community of Weihaiwei is most grateful, the total subscriptions received amounting to \$65,730. Grain was imported from Dalny and was distributed to the destitute under the supervision of Captain Binny, Junior District Officer, assisted by Mr. Jennings, Inspector of Police, from six different centres in the Territory, whilst the grain issued to the farmers on loan was handed over to them at Port Edward. The distribution of grain, free, and on loan, relieved the situation, but it threatened to become still more serious owing to the continued drought, and was a source of the greatest anxiety until the long-hoped-for rain at last arrived in June and enabled the Famine Relief Committee to cease its labours. The excellent work of the members of that Committee and of the officers of this Government in connection with the famine is deserving of the highest praise and well worthy of the appreciation of their services in the relief of distress conveyed to them by Lord Milner when Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is also pleasant to be able to state that the farmers have proved that their word is as good as their bond by having punctually and promptly repaid in full the cost of the grain, amounting to \$54,975, which is a large sum for small landholders. In order to mark how highly their good faith is appreciated by the Government, a permanent memorial to perpetuate the memory of their admirable conduct has been erected at Port Edward.

Changes of Staff.

Captain A. C. M. Binny, of the 1/18th Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army, who discharged the duties of Junior District Officer, was relieved by Mr. Hardy Jowett. Captain Binny proved himself a very hard-working and efficient District Officer and his excellent work in connection with the work of Famine Relief is specially deserving of all praise.

Jemadar Siddiq Ahmed, Sub-Assistant Surgeon, I.M.D., whose services in connection with the cholera outbreak were mentioned in the Annual Report for 1919, left in December, and his voluntary services are much missed, especially in the laboratory of the Port Edward Hospital, where he was exceedingly useful.

Mr. L. J. Self was appointed Sanitary Inspector on his arrival from home in July, and his appointment has been followed by a great improvement in the sanitary condition of the native shops and dwellings in Port Edward. The Chinese generally have shown themselves most ready to help the Inspector and have evinced no active obstruction to the sanitary improvements introduced by him.

Naval.

His Majesty's Fleet, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Duff, K.C.B., visited the Territory during the summer and remained for several months. Among the ships was a flotilla of submarines, which excited great curiosity among

the Chinese, who had never before seen this style of craft. Through the courtesy of the Naval Commander-in-Chief, Chinese residents were allowed to visit a submarine and very much appreciated the kindness which enabled them to enjoy this novel experience. This Territory had not enjoyed a visit from His Majesty's Fleet since the outbreak of war in 1914 and its return to these waters was heartily welcomed by the community, on which its presence has such an important influence, both socially and commercially.

Military.

The detachment of the 1/18th Infantry Regiment was relieved in May by a detachment of the 2/55th Coke's Rifles (F.F.), Indian Army, under the command of Captain W. J. Best, and has maintained the reputation for excellent behaviour set by its predecessors. The presence of a military detachment in this Territory is undoubtedly of great assistance in preventing the inroad into this Territory of armed bands who have disturbed the peace of places beyond the borders of this Territory, and so long as the present state of disorder and unrest prevails in China, its retention is most desirable.

Police.

The police stationed at Port Edward and at nine posts in the Territory have worked well in conjunction with the village Headmen, and there has been no serious crime except one case of murder and a serious case of robbery. The robbers were caught by the police and convicted. The murder was a peculiar instance of a man suffering under an intense obsession which took the form of devil possession, to which the Chinese, on account of their superstitious beliefs, regard themselves as liable. The man, whilst suffering under the hallucination that he was possessed by the ghost of a dead uncle, killed his wife, of whom, when he was in a normal condition, he was very fond. He was tried and found guilty but insane. No highway robberies took place inside the Territory, but outside the border, in Chinese territory, there were several periods of terror from lawless marauders.

Civil Suits.

The number of civil cases heard by the Senior District Officer was 142, as against 151 in 1919. It is difficult to assign any cause for the continued reduction in the number of civil cases, which has fallen steadily during the last five years, the figures being as follows:—1916, 397; 1917, 215; 1918, 187; 1919, 151; and 1920, 142. One reason for this diminution may be due to the removal of the Court of the Senior District Officer from Wench'üant'ang to Port Edward, which is remote from the villages where most of the cases originate, and another reason may be the repeated exhortations made to Headmen to try to settle the disputes in their villages by the time-honoured practice of "speaking peace."

There can be no doubt that there are among the Chinese, as among other races, those possessed of a litigious spirit, but the number of cases brought into Court in this Territory, which has a population of 150,000 people, compares favourably with many other places.

Though the civil suits heard during 1920 may have been comparatively few, there were an unusually large number of important cases. The introduction of the Government Waste Lands Ordinance brought to a head many disputed titles to "common land," five of which were tried by the Senior District Officer and one in the High Court. It is hoped that the decisions given have settled these disputes for all time. Their settlement has at any rate defined the ownership of many hundred acres of land—in most cases pasturage and sandy waste, but in two cases valuable agricultural land—which had been cultivated without any right or payment to Government for many years before this Territory was leased by Great Britain.

Police Cases.

There were 340 cases, as compared with 515 in 1919, the number of persons convicted being 773, as against 947 in 1919. Fines amounting to a total of \$4,468 were imposed, the amount in 1919 being \$6,869.

Cases tried by High Court.

Eight cases, four civil and four criminal, were tried by the High Court. All the civil cases and two of the criminal cases were tried by the Judge of the High Court, Mr. Wilkinson, and two criminal cases were tried by the Commissioner sitting as Judge of the High Court.

Medical.

The health of the resident and visiting foreign population was excellent, and there was very little sickness of a serious nature. At one time fears were entertained of an outbreak of typhus fever on account of the famine prevailing in this Territory, but the prompt measures taken to relieve the sufferers prevented this catastrophe. The attendances at the hospitals showed appreciable increases, especially at the hospital at Wénch'-üant'ang, which had a total attendance of 6,367, and 5,383 new cases, as compared with 3,430 attendances and 2,688 cases in 1919. At the Port Edward hospital there were 9,312 new cases, with a total of 14,500 attendances, as compared with 9,084 new cases and 13,540 attendances in 1919.

A laboratory was started in the Port Edward Hospital, and the work done by it included Widal examinations of blood and bacteriological examinations of water, in addition to the usual microscopical examinations of blood, excreta, and sputa.

The annual vaccination campaign commenced in March. The total number of vaccinations was 5,514, 98·26 per cent. of which were successful. The figures in 1919 were 6,016, with a percentage of 93·68 successes.

Education.

An investigation into the Chinese schools in the Territory was made by Mr. Jowett, Junior District Officer. The total number of schools, which are all primary, is 284, with an actual average attendance of 4,669 scholars and with a teaching staff of 307 teachers. Of the total number of scholars only about 100 are girls. The total annual cost of the schools, supported entirely by Chinese, is \$15,077. The old pre-republican method of teaching is giving place to more modern methods, and Mr. Jowett, who has had experience of education in other parts of China, is of opinion that the schools in this Territory compare very favourably with those in China proper, although they are not quite up to the standard of the more progressive districts of China. There is a great need for a middle-grade school, to enable scholars from primary schools to complete their education in the Territory, instead of having to go elsewhere for that purpose, and it is hoped that the present Government School may be made a middle-grade school. It is also anticipated that it will be possible to effect considerable improvement in the schools throughout the Territory, both in quantity and quality, by the encouragement of those interested in education and by the establishment of scholarships by private individuals.

III. TRADE.

The boycott of Japanese goods continued during the year, the Chinese in the Territory declining to have any mercantile transactions with the Japanese and refusing to deal in or handle any goods emanating from Japan. Only three Japanese steamers called at the Port, as compared with 31 in 1919. The famine also affected trade adversely. But these adverse influences were fortunately counterbalanced to a great extent by the presence of the Fleet. There was a great decline in the prices of ground-nuts and the market for salt was weak.

Imports (Steamers).

The total imports by steamers amounted to 137,524 packages, valued at \$2,458,092, as compared with 141,833, valued at \$2,272,734, in 1919. Raw cotton showed an increase of about \$20,000 and cotton yarns \$37,540. Timber, valued at \$75,068, was imported, with none in 1919, and cigarettes to the value of \$71,280 were imported, as compared with \$39,730 in 1919. Coal showed an increase in value of \$25,155, and flour a decrease of \$22,101. There was great decrease in piece goods, the value of which amounted to \$181,600, as compared with \$306,600 in the previous year. For the relief of those suffering from famine, grain (kaoliang) was imported to the value of \$38,895, none having been imported in 1919. Foreign provisions showed a very large increase, being imported to meet the requirements of the Fleet. The values were \$112,880, as compared with \$16,960 in 1919, or an increase of \$95,920. Foreign wines showed an increase of \$19,000.

Exports (Steamers).

Exports by steamers amounted to 487,043 packages, valued at \$2,579,612, as compared with 663,137 packages, valued at \$2,332,328, in 1919. The chief increases in values were as follows :

	1920.	1919.	Increase.
	\$	\$	\$
Salt	913,561	521,809	391,752
Eggs	10,765	1,290	9,475
Fish	68,090	25,310	42,780

Ground-nuts showed a decrease in value of \$247,672, ground-nut oil of \$16,581, and export of mules \$47,610.

Imports (Junks).

Imports by junks amounted to a total of 865,846 packages, valued at \$2,083,459, including timber valued at \$56,899, as compared with \$2,413,587 in 1919, or a decrease of \$330,128. (Note.—The figures for imported timber in 1919 were, by a clerical error, given as \$764,244 instead of \$76,424, and the imports by junks were accordingly valued in Appendix "A" of the Annual Report for 1919 at \$3,101,407 instead of at \$2,413,587. The correct figures for imports by junks in 1919 are given in Appendix "A" to this Report.) Salt is responsible for \$196,493 of this decrease, the figures for 1919 and 1920 being \$263,384 and \$66,891 respectively. Ground-nuts show a decrease of \$268,886. Timber imported by junks decreased by \$19,526, but owing to the large importation by steamer, which is a new departure in the trade of the Territory, the total value of timber imported in 1920 shows an increase of \$55,542. Beancakes showed a good recovery, the total value being \$102,170, as compared with \$58,581 in 1919. Bean oil increased by 1,133 "baskets," the figures being 2,583 in 1920 and 1,450 in 1919. The price, however, in 1920 was only \$10 a "basket," whereas in 1919 it was \$18. If the price had been the same in 1920, as in 1919, the increase in the value last year would have been approximately \$20,400.

As the figures given above show, the decrease in 1920, as compared with the year 1919, is \$330,128. For this decrease two commodities, salt and ground-nuts, account for a decrease of \$196,493 and \$268,886, making a total of \$465,379, or \$135,251 (about 30 per cent.) more than the decrease for the year.

Exports (Junks).

The total exports by junks amounted to 94,697 packages, valued at \$347,011, as compared with 103,079 packages, valued at \$403,344, for 1919, showing a decrease of \$56,333. This decrease is accounted for by the falling-off in the following exports:—Iron, \$11,600; ground-nuts, \$5,834; kerosene, \$8,726; and sugar, \$36,745.

In Appendix "A" will be found a return, prepared by Mr. Jowett, Junior District Officer, which shows that the total value of the trade of the Territory in 1920 was \$7,468,174, and in Appendix "B" is given a return of the principal imports

and exports, together with their value. The total value of the imports by junks and steamers was in 1919 \$4,686,321 and in 1920 \$4,541,551, and of exports \$2,735,672 in 1919 and \$2,926,623 in 1920, showing last year a decrease in imports of \$144,770 and an increase in exports of \$190,951, and an increase in the total volume of trade of \$46,181.

IV. SHIPPING.

The total number of steamers that called at the Port, exclusive of those seeking shelter only on account of stress of weather, was 515, with a tonnage of 480,287, as compared with 512 steamers, with a tonnage of 487,526, in 1919. The nationalities of these steamers were:—British, 350; Chinese, 156; Japanese, 3; Russian, 4; American, 2; total, 515. The total number of junks entering and clearing was 2,874, as compared with 4,535 in 1919 and 2,483 in 1918. The great increase in 1919 was due to an unusually large importation of salt, the reduction in which last year has caused the figures of the junk trade to approximate to those of previous years, when much less salt was imported.

V. POSTAL.

The mails despatched were made up of 703 bags containing 4,471 registered articles, 3,018 parcels other than ordinary correspondence, and 722 closed bags in transit. The mails received were composed of 1,071 bags and covers, which contained 1,847 registered articles, 1,284 parcels, and 580 enclosed bags in transit. The total receipts amounted to \$22,896·16, showing a total increase of \$14,480·64, as compared with the previous year, which was due to the presence of the Fleet. Residents still regret the closing of the Siberian route, but mails by the sea route arrived somewhat more regularly during 1920 than in the previous year. One mail arrived from London in 41 days, but another took 78 days before it reached this Territory.

VI. CLIMATE.

The highest barometric reading during the year was 30·724 and the lowest 29·604, the former in February and the latter in August, the mean monthly range being ·525. The highest temperature was 95 degrees F., in August, and the lowest 12 degrees F., in February, the mean monthly range being 14 degrees F. Rain or snow fell on 64 days. The rainfall showed an increase of about 10 per cent. compared with that of 1919, being 20·16 in., as compared with 18·17 in. in the previous year, and 15·53 in. in 1918. The rain was so long deferred that at one time it was feared that the spring crops would be a failure, but it fortunately arrived just in time to save them and prevent much distress in the Territory.

Government House,
Weihaiwei,
20th April, 1921.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Commissioner.

APPENDIX " A."
Return of Value of Trade.

		1920.		1919.
		\$		\$
Imports by steamers	.. ..	2,458,092	..	2,272,734
Imports by junks	.. ..	2,083,459	..	2,413,587
Total imports	.. ..	4,541,551	..	4,686,321
Exports by steamers	.. ..	2,579,612	..	2,332,328
Exports by junks	.. ..	347,011	..	403,344
Total exports	.. ..	2,926,623	..	2,735,672
Total trade	.. ..	7,468,174	..	7,421,993

Net increase of 1920 over 1919 = \$46,181.

APPENDIX " B."
Principal Imports.

	By Steamers.		By Junks.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		\$		\$
Bean-cakes	—	—	78,593 piculs	102,170
Candles	619 cases	2,476	128 cases	448
Chinese Wine	2,149 jars	2,579	20,629 jars	144,403
Cigarettes	594 cases	71,280	10 cases	1,200
Coal	3,935 tons	51,155	1,646 tons	21,399
Cotton Yarn	3,767 bales	640,390	5 bales	850
Cotton, raw	5,967 bales	179,010	394 bales	11,820
Dyes	758 tubs	9,770	213 tubs	2,556
Fish, salt and dried	3 baskets	33	13,263 baskets	92,841
Ground-nut Kernels ..	—	—	95,698 bags	574,188
Ground-nut Oil	—	—	18,520 tins	55,560
Flour	35,328 bags	102,451	14,277 bags	39,976
Gunny Bags	1,673 bales	83,650	4 bales	200
Kerosene Oil	80 cases	440	19,789 tins	108,840
Matches	2,211 cases	11,055	458 cases	1,374
Paper	9,901 bales	39,604	6,348 bales	25,392
Piece Goods	908 boxes	181,600	119 boxes	23,800
Sasson	—	—	195 cases	5,850
Salt	—	—	267,567 piculs	66,891
Treasure	—	422,370	—	—
Sugar	8,095 bags	121,425	12 bags	180

Principal Exports.

	By Steamers.		By Junks.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		\$		\$
Cotton Yarn	—	—	40 bales	6,800
Cotton, raw	2 bales	60	480 bales	14,400
Fish, salt and dried	6,809 baskets	68,090	10,236 piculs	71,654
Ground-nut Kernels ..	215,064 bags	1,290,384	97 bags	582
Ground-nut Oil	15,326 tubs	45,978	2,277 tins	6,831
Old Iron	—	—	5,009 piculs	25,049
Paper	—	—	2,756 bales	11,024
Sasson	916 bags	27,480	—	—
Salt	228,379 bags	913,561	18 piculs	5
Sugar	16 bags	240	4,145 bags	62,175

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ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1061	Seychelles	1919-1920
1062	Mauritius	"
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	"
1065	Sierra Leone	"
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



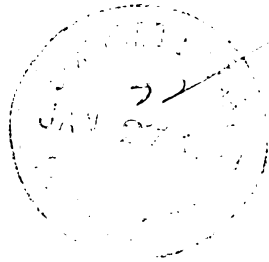
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NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1064.)



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A

No. 1098.

NIGERIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

The Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria is situated on the northern shores of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bounded on the west and north by French territory and on the east by the former German Colony of the Cameroons. A small portion of the Cameroons (31,150 square miles) has, for purposes of administration, been placed under the Nigerian Government. It is proposed that it shall be administered by Nigeria under a mandate which will be granted to Great Britain.

2. The area of Nigeria is approximately 335,700 square miles and it is thus larger than any British Dependency other than Tanganyika, India and the Self-Governing Dominions. It is nearly three times the size of the United Kingdom. Along the entire coast-line runs a belt, from 10 to 60 miles in width, of dense mangrove forest and swamp, intersected by the branches of the Niger delta, and other rivers, which are connected one with another by innumerable creeks, the whole constituting a continuous inland waterway from beyond the western boundary of Nigeria almost to the Cameroons. Behind this belt lie dense tropical forests, rich in oil-palm trees and valuable mahoganies. Further inland the forests become thinner and are succeeded by open ground covered with long grass and occasional clumps of trees. In the extreme north, where there is a very small rainfall and little vegetation, the desert is steadily encroaching. There are few mountains in the southern portion of Nigeria except along the eastern boundary, but north and east of the junction of the rivers Niger and Benue there is a large plateau from 2,000 to 6,000 feet in height. The country is well watered by rivers, especially in the south. Besides the Niger and Benue, which during the rainy season are navigable by steamers as far as Jebba and Yola respectively, there are a number of important rivers of which the Cross River is the largest. Except for Lake Chad, on the extreme north-east frontier, there are no large lakes.

3. The population of Nigeria is approximately $16\frac{1}{2}$ millions, which is larger than that of any British Dependency except India. There are about 3,000 Europeans temporarily resident in Nigeria, chiefly in the employ of the Government and of mercantile and mining companies. The country is not suited for European settlement. Of the native inhabitants the greater number are of pure negro race, but in the north there are Berber and negroid tribes. Of the former the Yorubas, Ibos, and Benis are the most important, and of the latter the Fulani, the Kanuri, and the Hausa-speaking tribes, generally called Hausas. The Yorubas occupy the south-west corner of Nigeria and from an early date possessed an organised government. The Benis are now a comparatively small tribe, but Benin was formerly a very powerful kingdom and its influence extended over a considerable area. The Ibos are a large unorganised tribe who occupy most of the land east of the lower Niger. The Kanuri occupy Bornu, in the north-east of Nigeria, a kingdom which has survived for many centuries in spite of great vicissitudes. It was known to the Portuguese as early as the 13th century. The Hausas occupy the greater portion of northern Nigeria and from an early date had attained to a fairly high level of civilisation. At the beginning of the 19th century the Hausa states were conquered by the Fulani, a nomad people who had settled in the towns and country of Hausaland and who, by their superior intelligence, had acquired great power and influence. The existing Hausa system of law and administration based on the Koran was retained, but Fulani dynasties were established in the various states.

4. The coast of Nigeria first became known to Europe towards the end of the 15th century as the result of the visits of Portuguese explorers. Shortly afterwards the demand for negro labour in the American and West Indian colonies created an immense trade in slaves and for over 300 years the west coast of Africa was visited in large numbers by the slave ships of all nations. At the beginning of the 19th century efforts were made to suppress the traffic, which was declared illegal, and a British naval squadron was stationed on the coast to intercept the slave ships. In 1851 British support was given to an exiled King of Lagos, who, in return, pledged himself to abolish the slave trade in Lagos, which was at that time the chief slave market in West Africa. Finding himself powerless against the slave-dealing faction, his son ceded Lagos to the British in 1861 and the British Colony of Lagos came into being the following year.

5. By the exertions of Mungo Park (1796-1805), Captain Clapperton (1822-26), Richard Lander (1828-30), Doctor Barth (1850-55) and numerous other explorers, most of whom lost their lives in the country, the course of the Niger and the existence of the Fulani kingdoms in the interior had become known, and, after many failures, a successful trade was established along the banks of the Rivers Niger and Benue. In 1879 the various British firms

trading on these rivers were amalgamated, and in 1887 a Charter was granted to the amalgamated companies, which became known as the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited. By this Charter the Company became responsible for the government of the river basins and the whole of Hausaland and Bornu, but, in practice, their influence extended little beyond the banks of the rivers.

6. The Berlin Conference of 1885 had recognised the British claim to a protectorate over Nigeria, and the remainder of the country was made into a separate administration under Foreign Office control and became known as the Oil Rivers and later as the Niger Coast Protectorate.

7. Owing to the restrictions on trade caused by artificial boundaries and the virtual monopoly which the Niger Company exercised, to the inability of the Company's forces to restrain the slave-raiding propensities of the Fulani Chiefs, and to foreign aggression on the western frontiers, it became necessary for the British Government to assume a more direct control over the country. The Company's Charter was accordingly revoked on the 1st January, 1900, and the northern portion of their territories became the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, the southern portion being added to the Niger Coast Protectorate and renamed the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, both Protectorates being placed under Colonial Office control.

8. In 1898 an Imperial Force, recruited locally but with British officers, was raised by Sir Frederick Lugard, and was later taken over by the Colonial Government. This force was named the West African Frontier Force, and the armed constabularies of the other West African Colonies and Protectorates were modelled on it. Soon after the establishment of the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, these troops were used to subdue the Muhammadan rulers of the Hausa states and Bornu, who had persistently ignored the British requests for the cessation of slave-raiding and whose attitude was one of open hostility to an administration of whose power they had had no proof. As each in turn was conquered a new ruler was appointed who undertook to govern his country according to local law and tradition, but without slave-raiding and the extortion and inhuman cruelties which had marked the former régime. British Residents were stationed throughout the country and exercised a wholesome check on any tendency to relapse.

9. In the south there were fewer large states and the people on the whole were of a much lower standard of intelligence and development. On the lower reaches of the Benue River, a Jekri chief, named Nana, defied the Protectorate Government and dealt openly in slaves. He was attacked by a naval and military force and defeated in 1894 after severe fighting. In 1897 a peaceful mission to the King of Benue was massacred and another combined

expedition was despatched : Benin was captured and was found to be full of the remains of human sacrifices, for which the city had long had an unpleasant reputation. In 1902 the Aro tribe were subdued.

10. While the remainder of the country was being opened up the hinterland of Lagos was being added by cession to the territories originally ceded by the King of Lagos in 1861. In 1866 Lagos had been included in the West African Settlements, and in 1874 it was united with the Gold Coast Colony. It became the separate Colony and Protectorate of Lagos in 1886.

11. In 1906 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated and in 1914 Northern Nigeria was included and the whole country became the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

12. On the outbreak of war in 1914 the Nigeria Regiment (of the West African Frontier Force) took part in the campaign which resulted in the conquest of the neighbouring German Colony of the Cameroons and a strong contingent of the Regiment also fought in the East African campaign. The loyalty of the chiefs and people of Nigeria throughout the War was very marked, and even the entry of Turkey into the War did not affect the loyalty of the Muhammadan rulers. There was, however, a somewhat serious rising in Egbaland in 1918 which was quickly subdued.

II. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

13. The main political divisions of Nigeria are the Colony of Nigeria, and two groups of Provinces, known as the Northern and Southern Provinces, which together form the Protectorate. The whole country is under the control of a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, to whom the Lieutenant Governors of the Northern and Southern Provinces and the Administrator of the Colony are responsible. The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting of a few of the senior officials. There is also a larger advisory and deliberative Nigerian Council composed of official and unofficial members, all of whom, with the exception of three representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and Mines, are nominated by the Governor. There is a Legislative Council, the powers of which are confined to the Colony, laws affecting the Protectorate being enacted by the Governor. The members of the Legislative Council are nominated by the Governor and there is an official majority.

14. The Protectorate is divided into 23 provinces, each under the immediate control of a Resident. In the Northern Provinces and the western portions of the Southern Provinces, where there are chiefs of sufficient influence and ability, native administrations have been recognised and supported by Government, the details of administration being left almost entirely in the hands of the paramount chief and his officials. In other parts, however,

where there is no strong native authority capable of governing, the rule of the political officers is a more direct one, but even in such districts a native judiciary with powers limited in proportion to its ability and integrity is made use of with results that are increasingly satisfactory.

15. The standard of administration in most of the Provinces continues to show steady improvement, more particularly in backward communities, where the policy is not to force the pace in regard to social evolution purely for convenience of administration, but to find out what the indigenous method of self-government is, and to build on that. The development of the administrative sense has been marked among these communities by a corresponding decrease in crime, by the facility with which criminals have been brought to justice, and by the opening up of districts hitherto classed as "unsettled." Without doubt these satisfactory results are directly traceable to the increase in the political staff, a sufficiency of which is essential for progress. It is necessary to add here that in spite of the depleted staff during the War, although there was no marked advance neither was there any very noticeable retrogression in this respect. With a full staff there is always a decrease in the number of military patrols and punitive measures generally.

16. In the more advanced communities during the period under review, the efforts of the political staff have been concentrated on increasing the efficiency and justice of the Native Courts, and improving the Native Gaols, resulting, in the latter case, in a pronounced improvement in the health of the prisoners. The Native Treasuries continue to grow in efficiency, and in some parts the methods of accounting and the conduct of public business appear to be developing very rapidly along lines analogous to those of our public departments.

17. In the Southern Provinces the newly organised Native Administrations have made satisfactory progress. The death of the Alake of Egbaland at a period when the country was settling down under his rule after the disturbances of 1919 was most unfortunate. Political intrigues in Lagos resulted in the withdrawal of all official recognition of Eleko, the titular "Prince" of Lagos, who had allowed his position to be exploited by political adventurers. Eleko is the present head of the House of Docemo, the king who ceded Lagos to the British Crown, and as an act of grace an allowance was made to him by the Government for the maintenance of the women and children of the House. This has now been stopped.

18. The provisional readjustment of the boundary line between the French and British spheres of Cameroon, in accordance with the Agreement concluded by the two Governments on the 10th July, 1919, has been carried out by the local officers of both countries without any friction or disturbance.

19. The number of criminal cases brought before the Courts continues to increase but this is probably due to the more efficient administration of the country. In the more backward provinces a great number of murders are committed, many of them for apparently trifling causes. Though a certain amount of trading in young children and ignorant or half-witted adults probably still goes on it may be said that there is now no such thing as a slave in the proper sense of the term. What is now called slavery is merely a definite and reciprocal contract of service which is to a certain extent enforced by the Native Courts of the Northern Provinces but not by the Protectorate Courts. The fact that all persons born since 1901 are free is becoming widely known, even in the most distant parts, and the institution of slavery in the Muhammadan Provinces will shortly die a natural death.

20. The question of an adequate supply of voluntary labour for the public services, which is closely connected with, and, in fact, is inseparable from the transport question, is already serious and likely to become increasingly so with the big construction programmes in view.

21. A great increase has been remarked in the numbers of women who apply to the Native Courts for divorce and are granted it, more especially at large centres where the development of trade and mining or the presence of troops and Government employees has introduced a larger floating population. This is commonly attributed to the increase of Native Courts in numbers and popularity, the consequent decrease in the transaction of matrimonial affairs by family and village Heads, and the facile marriages of soldiery, police, labourers, and other employees of Europeans.

22. While there has undoubtedly been a decrease of crime generally, in the neighbourhood of Government stations and townships the particular crimes of burglary and larceny show a tendency to increase and the thefts of sleepers and sleeper keys from the Railway, in spite of frequent convictions, continue to be a source of anxiety to the Railway authorities. This particular form of theft is most prevalent at the beginning of the farming season, indicating a shortage of iron for farming implements, and arrangements have been made to place steel railway sleepers which have been condemned at the disposal of the communities affected.

23. During the year there was a serious epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis in Sokoto Province, the case mortality being exceedingly high. Towards the end of the year the epidemic invaded the northern portion of Kontagora Province. There was also an epidemic of smallpox throughout the Southern Provinces, which was of a virulent type.

24. The population of Nigeria has, as stated above, been estimated at 16,250,000 natives and 3,000 Europeans. The

census taken in 1921 will probably show that the estimate is too low. There is little immigration or emigration.

III. GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

25. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years are as follows :—

				<i>Revenue.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>
				£		£
1916	..	..	..	2,943,184	..	3,609,638
1917	..	..	..	3,492,738	..	3,219,958
1918	..	..	..	4,014,190	..	3,459,774
1919	..	..	..	4,959,429	..	4,529,176
1920	..	..	..	6,819,274	..	6,493,523

The expenditure for 1916 included £542,868 advanced pending the issue of a loan ; smaller sums were similarly advanced in subsequent years. Separate accounts are kept by the Native Administrations, which receive a proportion, normally 50 per cent. of the sums collected by direct taxation. The total revenue of these Administrations in 1920 exceeded £700,000. There was an excess of assets over liabilities at the end of the year 1920 of £3,296,789. The Public Debt at the same date amounted to £10,245,593 and the Sinking Fund to £557,381. There were no important changes in taxation.

26. During the year a new “ mixed-metal ” coinage was put into circulation and it has been found possible gradually to withdraw most of the low-value currency notes, which had proved very unpopular with the native population.

IV. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

27. *Trade.*—The value of the trade of Nigeria during the year 1920 was as follows :—

Imports	..	..	..	..	..	£ 25,216,000
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	16,987,000
						● <u>£42,203,000</u>

The value of the transit trade (*i.e.*, goods passing through the inland waters of Nigeria to and from Dahomey and the Cameroons) was £312,000.

28. As compared with 1919 the value of the import trade had increased by over £13,000,000 and of the export trade by over £2,000,000. The bulk of the trade is with the United Kingdom, which in 1920 supplied 81 per cent. of the imports and took 91 per cent. of the exports. Imports from the United States of America amounted to 11 per cent. of the total. The trade with other foreign countries is comparatively insignificant. There

has been a falling-off in the value of exports to the United States on account of the loss of the market for cocoa, hides and skins.

The prohibition of the importation of trade spirits has resulted in a serious financial loss to the Government, as the revenue derived from the high duties charged on these spirits has disappeared. It has, therefore, been necessary to increase the Import Duties on other goods. Export Duties on produce were first imposed in 1916 and they have also been recently raised.

29. In the early months of 1920 there was an unprecedented boom in trade, very high prices being obtained for the raw products of Nigeria, but in the latter half of the year the demand for, and the prices of, these products fell considerably, and serious losses were experienced by firms on stocks purchased before the slump. The purchasing power of the natives was severely handicapped as they were unable to obtain remunerative prices for their produce.

30. *Agriculture.*—The earlier part of the year witnessed a boom in the ground-nut trade at Kano. Prices rose locally to as high as £40 per ton and heavy losses were in consequence sustained by trading firms who were unable to ship their stocks before the inevitable slump occurred. The high prices resulted in a largely increased area being planted by the natives. Prices have, however, fallen considerably and very little business has in consequence been done in the new crop. The export trade in ground-nuts was created by the extension of the railway to Kano in January, 1912. During the first season thereafter the native willingly took £4 10s. a ton for his ground-nuts.

31. The possibility of producing tobacco of the Virginian type suitable for the home market has been engaging the attention of the Department of Agriculture. The results hitherto have been distinctly promising. Considerable success has also attended the Department's efforts to introduce into the Northern Provinces trees of economic value, and it has now been demonstrated that citrus of various kinds, as well as bananas, pineapples, and other tropical fruits can all be grown there successfully under irrigation. Improved wheat from India, and swamp rice from Ceylon and British Guiana, may also be mentioned among recent successful introductions which have established themselves in local favour.

32. The principal export crops in the Southern Provinces have continued to be cacao, cotton and rubber ; whilst the chief energies of farmers have been devoted to the production of the ordinary tropical food crops, mainly yams, cassava, etc. All these activities are very largely carried out in conjunction with the collection and preparation of palm kernels and palm oil, but it is very rarely that the oil-palm itself has the benefit of any cultivation.

33. The slump in the cacao market, after the great boom of the previous season, seriously discouraged the farmers, and the demand and prices have become so low that those who can produce good cacao are threatening to cease fermentation altogether. If this occurs, Nigeria will practically disappear from the cacao market. The mercantile firms who handle cacao can best assist in the efforts of the Agricultural Department towards sustained improvement by showing a preference, in buying, for fermented cacao, and by offering such a premium for good fermented as the state of the market will permit. The past season has been somewhat unfavourable to production; but this circumstance is of little importance in the present very depressed state of the market.

34. The high prices guaranteed by the British Cotton Growing Association for cotton, coupled with a good late-planting season for the native kinds, have given so great a stimulus to production and the bringing forward of seed-cotton that would have been otherwise kept for the native weaving industry, that the existing ginneries of the British Cotton Growing Association are finding no little difficulty in dealing expeditiously with the crop. It is certain that the output of the 1920-21 season will exceed all previous records. The future of cotton in Nigeria is bound up with the provision of reasonably cheap transport.

35. The low prices of rubber in recent years for the inferior grades have almost put wild rubber out of the market; and the small shipments are made up mainly of plantation rubber produced chiefly in the Benin Province. On the more carefully kept of these plantations a comparatively large expenditure is incurred for the combating of rubber diseases, but unfortunately efforts are largely nullified owing to the neglect of owners of neighbouring plantations.

36. The palm oil and kernel trade have shared in the general depression, merchants have ceased temporarily to buy, or have purchased only in small quantities, so that the products of the oil palm have been mainly used for supplying local needs.

37. English poultry have during the last two years been imported with the idea of improving the indigenous domestic fowl. The results so far have been extremely gratifying, the natives being keen to avail themselves of the opportunity of purchasing birds of the imported breeds in order to improve their own strain.

38. *Land.*—Under an agreement executed between the Imperial Government and the Royal Niger Company at the date of the revocation of the Charter, the latter's successors were allowed to retain certain sites then occupied as trading stations. There are a few such sites in the Southern Provinces too. With

the foregoing exceptions the whole of the land is native land, controlled and administered by the Government.

39. Proprietary rights in land have never been recognised by native law and custom, and legislation enacted since the establishment of the Protectorate provides for the maintenance of that policy. Building and agricultural leases are granted by Government with conditions as to improvements and revision of rent.

40. In making such revision Government is debarred by statute from taking into consideration any improvements made upon a site by the lessee, and from charging more, as rent, for any sites than the amount which is obtainable, as rent, for sites similarly situated and of equal areas. If the rent is raised on revision the lessee may appeal to the Provincial Court or to the Governor, who will appoint an arbitrator. If the occupier is dissatisfied he may surrender his lease, and the Governor may award such compensation for unexhausted improvements as in his discretion he may think fit.

41. In the Southern Provinces native lands are not at the disposal and under the control of the Governor in the same way as in the Northern Provinces, but land may not be leased to a non-native except with the consent of the Governor. Large tracts suitable for agriculture are available, but it is essential that anyone who desired to cultivate rubber or any other permanent crop should first visit Nigeria and ascertain the actual conditions.

V. INVESTIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

42. *Forestry*.—Timber is exploited under the selection system with minimum girth limits for the various species. Licences are issued for defined areas (*i.e.*, Concessions) carrying the exclusive right to fell timber on such areas. Forty-two timber licences have been issued covering an area of 3,991 square miles. Hitherto only first grade timbers, such as mahogany, have been worked, but applications are now being received to exploit the secondary timbers.

43. There has been an addition of approximately 80 acres to the area of timber plantations in the Southern Provinces, 48 acres of which are plantations of Opepe (*Sarcocephalus esculentus*) at Akilla, which is showing great promise. The remainder are chiefly fuel species. Opepe yields a valuable timber, of a bright yellow to orange appearance, which is very durable, and the demand for which is steadily increasing. Experiments carried out in the Ibadan Fuel Plantations have shown that fuel plantations can be undertaken as a profitable investment wherever the initial costs of formation are not excessive.

44. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining supplies of timber from the home markets during the War, departmental agency was adopted for the exploitation of suitable local timbers. The whole of this undertaking has now been transferred to private enterprise, and this has resulted in a number of applications being received for licences for similar operations. There can be little doubt that such action will result in a considerable development of the timber industry both for export and local consumption.

45. The total area of all the Forest Reserves in Nigeria is 4,330 square miles.

46. *Mining.* There were 65 Tin Mining Companies operating during the year, and 34 individual workers, the average number of persons employed on the mines being 300 Europeans and 23,000 natives. The output of tin ore was approximately 7,300 tons. The average price of metallic tin was £305 per ton, and the value of the tin ore exported was £1,785,724, but in spite of the high average price, the 1919 output was not reached. The output of wolfram remained very small, being little more than an impurity exported with certain tin ores.

47. The output of gold was only 724 oz., this being all from alluvial river washings. Perhaps the most interesting development undertaken during the year is the prospecting for silver lead at Ameka, in Ogoja Province, where there are the remains of ancient workings.

48. The coal-fields at Enugu are owned and worked by the Government. The staff consists of 26 Europeans and 2,568 labourers. The output during 1920 amounted to 180,831 tons. The main coal seam, which averages 4 ft. 2 in. in thickness, consists of an outcrop and is worked by adits from different points. Rail facilities have been provided for the quick loading of the coal. A scheme of electrification in connection with the colliery has been sanctioned and is now being proceeded with. The coal is of good quality, highly volatile, and free from ash or clinker. It burns very quickly and has a specific gravity of 1.28.

49. The activities of the Geological Survey were continued according to programme on the tinfields in the Northern Provinces and along the western railway in the Southern Provinces. On the tinfields the preliminary survey was completed of that portion of the Bauchi Plateau over which tin mining is being actively carried on, and the principal field and laboratory results of the survey were incorporated in a Bulletin* on the Geology of the Plateau Tinfields which was published early in 1921. In the South the search was continued in Oyo Province for useful minerals and rock in the immediate neighbourhood of the western railway. Numerous occurrences of mica were noted but the plates were of little or no value. Talc, a mineral used in various industries, was found in considerable quantity and of fair

* Copies can be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies

quality, but its market value is probably too low to warrant exploitation in Nigeria. Traces of various other minerals were found but none in economic quantity.

50. *Fisheries*.—The rivers and creeks teem with fish, and a large number of persons are employed in fishing, chiefly for local consumption. Small quantities of fish are crudely cured and traded with the towns distant from the river, where this form of food is highly prized. There is very little sea fishing. Before the War a steam trawler was working off Lagos and a large quantity of fish of excellent quality was obtained.

51. *Water Power* is little used in Nigeria. In the southern parts of Nigeria there is little fall in the rivers, but on the Bauchi Plateau there is a considerable amount of force available.

52. *Manufactures*.—There are no manufactures in Nigeria on a commercial scale. Earthenware and brassware are made for local use and for sale as curios. Leather is worked and a certain amount of cloth is woven from locally-grown cotton. The produce of the country is exported almost entirely in a raw state, such little preparation as is necessary being done by hand.

VI. BANKS.

53. Banking interests are represented in Nigeria by the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, which was established in 1894 and now has 14 branches and 7 agencies, and by the Colonial Bank, which extended its operations to this part of the world in 1917 and now has 8 local branches. Both banks undertake all kinds of banking business. No new branches were opened in 1920, but in some of the larger centres the staff was increased.

54. The boom in trade during recent years, together with the spread of education, has disclosed to the African the practical value of banking institutions, with the result that in 1920 there was a marked increase in the number of Africans who utilised the banks and a corresponding increase in the number of accounts opened. There is a Government Savings Bank worked by the Post Office Authorities, and Savings Bank business is also conducted by the Colonial Bank.

VII. LEGISLATION.

55. *Currency*.—West Africa, like other parts of the Empire, has had to resort to an alloy coinage. The Currency Offences Ordinance, 1920 (No. 14 of 1920) extends to this currency the prohibition against discounting, etc.

56. *Restriction of Rent*.—The Profiteering (Rent) Ordinance, 1920 (No. 8 of 1920) adopts the main provisions regarding rent of the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (War Restrictions) Act, 1915, as amended by the Acts passed in 1919. The

"standard rent" means the rent at which the land was let on December 31st, 1917, and the Order of the standard rent of which does not exceed

VIII. EDUCATION

57. A number of primary schools in the Northern Provinces, Government, and a good many others, which do not belong to the Missionary Societies, receive subsidies from the Government. All these "Assisted" schools are visited regularly by officials of the Education Department. There is an increasing demand for schools, but at the present time the Government is often unwilling to allow their children to attend schools more than is sufficient for them to pick up a small amount of

58. There are also a great number of primary schools which are not under Government control and are conducted by men who do not possess any special qualifications for the work. For the most part the education given is of an indifferent character, and in many cases is absolutely valueless, if not indeed harmful.

59. Throughout the Northern Provinces there are a number of Muhammadan schools in which practically the whole of the pupils is occupied in learning by heart and in the recitation of the Koran.

60. King's College, Lagos, is the only Government school in which the work is entirely of a secondary character. In the whole country there are only a few hundred pupils receiving such education.

61. The chief difficulty of the Education Department is the lack of sufficient qualified native teachers. It is proposed that a training college for teachers will be opened at Katsina in the current year. Provision is also made for training native teachers at the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, the C.M.S. College, Oyo, the Wesleyan Training Institute, Ibadan, and the Government Schools at Bonny and Warri. Evening classes for teachers are held at King's College, Lagos. In 1917 courses for teachers were held in July and December at the Agricultural Department at Calabar and Onitsha.

62. Instruction in Manual Training and Elementary Agriculture is given in the majority of the Government and Missionary Schools. Technical education in the form of Carpentry and Joinery is given at the C.M.S. Industrial School, Onitsha, and the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar. The latter school has a Printing and a Tailoring department. In the Northern Provinces good progress is being made not only in such semi-exotic work as carpentry, smithing, motor-work, and cart-building, but in encouragement and improvement of endemic crafts such as tanning, leather working, weaving, basket and other plaiting.

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X. COMBINATIONS.

67. *Railways.*—The Western Division of the Nigerian
Railway connects the Port of Lagos with the important towns of
Abeokuta, Kofor, Ibadan, Lagos, Kano, Zaria, and Katsina.
miles) while the Eastern Division connects the Port of Lagos
fields of the Benue Plateau. An estimated length of 1,500 miles
is being constructed.

“ standard rent ” means the rent at which a dwelling-house was let on December 31st, 1917, and the Ordinance applies to houses the standard rent of which does not exceed £100.

VIII. EDUCATION.

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IX. CLIMATE.

63. The seasons in Nigeria depend rather on the rainfall than on temperature. They are as a rule well defined. The "dry season" with its attendant "Harmattan" commences in the north of the country in October, and ends in April. It is of shorter duration in the south, and at Lagos generally lasts from November to March with only intermittent "Harmattan." The "Harmattan" is a dry north-easterly wind which brings with it a thick haze composed of minute particles of dust. During the "Harmattan" the nights and early mornings are cold, but the days are very hot, and it is during this period that the maximum diurnal variations occur.

64. Generally speaking, the lowest mean temperature is in the months of July and August, and the lowest minimum recorded temperature at the beginning and end of the year. The highest mean and maximum temperatures are, as a rule, recorded in March and April. In most cases the difference in range between the maximum and minimum temperature is greater in proportion to the distance of a station from the coast.

65. At the end of the "dry season" numerous tornados herald the approach of the "rainy season." Before a tornado the air is oppressively close and heavy; the tornado itself, which is scarcely more than a heavy squall, lasts but a short time and is accompanied and followed by a thunderstorm and rain. The "rainy season" lasts until October, with a slight break in August, and is followed by another short tornado season. In the south the prevailing wind during this season is from the south-west, and with it comes the rain, which is remarkably heavy along the coast and decreases rapidly as it travels inland.

66. The average annual rainfall at Akassa, in the Niger Delta, is 160 inches; at Lokoja, situated at the confluence of the Niger and Benue it is 48 in.; and at Sokoto, in the north-west of Nigeria, it is only 24 in. The average rainfall at Lagos is 72 in. In the northern parts of Nigeria there is literally no rain whatever for the greater part of the dry season; for 12 years no rain has fallen at Sokoto during the four months, November to February, and over 23 in. out of the average rainfall of 24 is recorded during the five months, May to September. In the south the difference is not so marked, though the average fall at Forcados in the Niger Delta is 119 inches for the six months, May to October, out of an annual average of 151 inches.

X. COMMUNICATIONS.

67. *Railways.*—The Western Division of the Nigerian Railway connects the Port of Lagos with the important towns of Abeokuta, Ibadan, Ilorin, Minna, Kaduna, Zaria, and Kano (705 miles) while the branch line to Bukuru (143 miles) serves the tin fields of the Bauchi Plateau. An outlet at Baro on the Niger

River is provided by the branch line from Minna (111 miles) and ships of 12 ft. draught can be safely navigated from Forcados and Burutu to the former port during the high river season between the months of July and October. During the remainder of the year the Niger River is navigable only by "stern wheelers" and barges. The Eastern Division, terminating at Port Harcourt on the Bonny Estuary, serves the important coalfields at Enugu (151 miles) as well as running through a very rich palm belt supporting an immense population. An extension 417 miles in length of this portion of the system, is now being constructed, and when completed will join up with the Western Division at Kaduna crossing the Benue River close to Abinsi. All the lines are of 3 ft. 6 in. gauge, except the Zaria-Bukuru branch line which is of a 2 ft. 6 in. gauge. A branch line—42 miles in length, will be constructed from a point on the extension mentioned in the preceding paragraph to Bukuru—the terminus of the 2 ft. 6 in. gauge line from Zaria.

68. The gross earnings during 1920 amounted to £1,626,799; the working expenditure to £1,041,523; net receipts, £585,276. The total number of passengers carried was 2,210,536. 532,335 tons of goods and minerals were handled. There are 126 stations open for the receipt of public traffic. The permanent staff of the Railways includes 458 Europeans. The African salaried staff numbers 1,800, while the artisans and labourers total some 12,000.

69. *Harbours, Rivers, and Creeks.*—The entrance works in Lagos Harbour consist of two main moles to the East and West of the harbour entrance, with a training bank for guidance of the currents. The West Mole was extended with the object of forming its correct relative position in regard to the East Mole; 372 ft. were added to its length during the year, and 213 ft. to the training bank. A total of almost 100,000 tons of stone was employed during 1920 in the construction of the entrance works. The official depth at the harbour bar was maintained at 20 feet.

70. The progress in the extension of the Western Mole and the training bank, coupled with the efforts of the dredgers attached to the Marine Department during 1920, has materially improved the bar and the outer approaches to the harbour. A portion of the old bar has disappeared entirely, and whereas a depth of 18 ft. of water only at L.W.O.S.T. was obtainable on the bar at the close of 1919, the lowest water L.W.O.S.T. at the end of 1920 was 25 ft. Progress on the Harbour Improvement Scheme, commenced in 1914 and paid for from Loan Funds, was greatly retarded during the War. A new and powerful tug was purchased during the year for the harbour.

71. In 1919 the channel connecting Forcados and Burutu, the chief depôt of the Niger Company and of all water-borne imports and exports for the River Niger and Benue and their

tributaries only carried 16 ft. of water, and as vessels can cross the Forcados River bar drawing 18 ft. 6 in. the shallowness of the Burutu Channel was a distinct disadvantage to trade. Dredging operations were undertaken and now vessels can negotiate this channel drawing over 18 feet.

72. A survey of the Bonny bar was continued during 1920 by marine officers and will be completed during 1921. Considerable work was done during 1920 in clearing obstructions on the River Niger, and the sudd region between Lagos and Sapele was kept open throughout the year for the navigation of launches and timber rafts.

73. *Shipping*.—The regular passenger and mail services are maintained by the steamers of Messrs. Elder Dempster & Co., Ltd., but a number of other lines are now running to Nigeria. 324 vessels of a total of 604,000 tons entered at the port of Lagos during the year 1920. The mail steamers take about sixteen days on the voyage from Liverpool to Lagos.

74. *Roads*.—The Government has constructed a number of wide motor roads which can be used throughout the year by light cars and in the dry season by heavy lorries, and the whole country is covered with a network of "bush paths" which are seldom wide enough for two persons to walk abreast.

75. *Post Office, Telegraphs, and Telephones*.—There has been a large increase in postal traffic, especially in the number of parcels handled. It has not been found possible, owing to shortage of material, to proceed to any great extent with the construction of new telegraph lines, but both the telegraph and telephone services have been well maintained. All important stations are connected by telegraph, and there are telephone exchanges in all the large towns.

76. The Nigerian telegraph system is connected with the telegraphs of French West Africa by land lines, and there is cable communication between Lagos and other countries. There is a wireless station of small range at Lagos.

77. No flying machines have yet been seen in Nigeria. Investigations were made by Government as to the possibility of establishing a waterplane service between the coast towns but the cost involved made the scheme impossible.

78. *Public Works*.—The wharfage scheme for ocean steamers at Port Harcourt was commenced during the year (a first instalment of 1,050 ft. is being built), and the preliminaries in respect of the Lagos scheme were settled, a contract being let to Messrs. Armstrong Whitworth and Company early in 1921 for the construction of 1,800 ft. of wharfage for ocean steamers. A contract was let to the same firm for large railway workshops at the headquarters of the Western Division. The road programme was

pushed on with and the route for a main trunk road to the Cameroon Province was surveyed. It is on the extension of transport facilities, railways, roads, and harbours, that the future prosperity of Nigeria depends. A coal and petroleum wharf is also being constructed at the terminus of the Western Division of the Railway and a new electric light and power station for Lagos is in course of erection.

A. C. BURNS,

Assistant Secretary.

Lagos.

27th September, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.						
No.	Colony, etc.					Year.
1062	Mauritius .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1919-1920
1063	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	.. April-December	1919
1064	Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919
1065	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1066	Gold Coast .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1067	Jamaica .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1070	British Honduras .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1071	Hong Kong .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1072	Barbados .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1076	Falkland Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919
1077	Bermuda .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1078	Grenada .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1079	Uganda .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919-1920
1080	Fiji .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1081	Gibraltar .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919
1083	Bechuanaland .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1085	Basutoland .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1087	Barbados .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1090	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1091	Zanzibar .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1092	Cayman Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1094	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"
1095	Bahamas .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	1920
1097	Weihaiwei .. .. .	..	..	..	.. .. .	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.				Subject.
82	Imperial Institute .. .. .	..	..	..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies .. .. .	..	..	..	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute .. .. .	..	..	..	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate .. .. .	..	..	..	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1099.

NEW HEBRIDES.

REPORT FOR 1920.



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1921

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No.1099.

NEW HEBRIDES.

REPORT FOR 1920.

GENERAL.

The New Hebrides, to which are attached the Banks and Torres Islands, lie between the 12th and 20th degrees of south latitude, and the 165th and 170th degrees of east longitude, and have an area of about 5,700 square miles. The natives are Melanesians, but in places there is a mixture of Polynesian blood.

A joint Naval Commission was established in 1888, by agreement with France, to protect the lives and property of British and French subjects and to maintain order. By the Convention of 20th October, 1906, a Condominium was set up with a joint Court composed of British and French Judges and a neutral President; and an executive government consisting for some purposes of the British and French representatives in the group acting in concert. For other purposes British and French nationals remain subject to the control only of their national authorities.

The British and French Resident Commissioners are subordinate to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific and the High Commissioner at Nouméa respectively.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Revenue.

	1919.			1920.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Condominium Revenue :—</i>						
Post Office	402	4	0	759	5	4
Port Dues	200	4	0	293	5	2
Joint Court	68	1	0	8	1	6
Import Duties	8,634	16	10	16,224	10	10
Export Duties	167	8	10	2,172	11	0
Wireless	468	16	4	454	9	2
Miscellaneous	193	4	0	595	1	2
Total Condominium Revenue	10,134	15	0	20,507	4	2
	1919–1920			1920–1921		
<i>British Revenue in periods :—</i>						
Fines, Fees, Licences, &c.	98	6	4	122	17	4
Interest on Furniture	11	16	7	10	15	4
Rents	38	0	0	87	10	0
Income Duty	252	13	11	227	10	11
Total British Revenue	400	16	10	448	13	7

Comparative Yearly Statement of the Expenditure.

<i>Condominium Expenditure :—</i>	1919.			1920.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Joint Court	4,554	0	2	3,309	0	8
Constabulary	1,613	0	10	2,070	2	10
Post Office	735	13	6	768	4	6
Public Works (Annual)	551	10	8	1,444	10	8
Port and Harbour	140	2	10	200	11	10
Public Works (Extraordinary)	286	19	4	7	12	0
Island Services	683	2	6	832	4	2
Medical	76	2	6	82	18	10
Customs	523	15	2	571	3	0
Telegraph and Telephones	806	0	2	2,049	10	0
Miscellaneous	576	18	6	5,089	4	6
Total Condominium Expenditure	10,547	6	2	16,425	3	0
<i>Expenditure on Services exclusively British for periods :—</i>	1919-1920			1920-1921		
Establishment	2,484	5	2	2,190	4	9
Travelling : Government Yacht	4,174	11	7	8,757	4	5
" Boat's Crew	234	14	2	297	8	4
Medical	250	0	0	250	0	0
Prison	4	7	7	25	19	0
Incidentals	358	15	9	742	1	4
Total Expenditure on Services exclusively British.	7,506	14	3	12,262	17	10

In considering the figures in these tables it must always be borne in mind that, so far as Condominium Receipts and Expenditure are concerned, the sterling values are merely nominal. All payments to the Condominium Treasury, with the exception of a very small amount, are, and have been for a long period, made in French currency ; as a natural consequence all local disbursements are in the same medium ; payment for supplies from Australia having, of course, to be made in sterling. The rate of exchange as between French and English currency has, during the year, varied from Frs.40·00 to Frs.60·00 to the pound sterling, and as, for purposes of official account, the old par rate of Frs.25·00 to the pound sterling has been preserved, some idea can be formed of the real amount that the figures shown would represent in sterling.

All the important items show increases, especially those of Post Office, Port Dues, and Import and Export Duties due to increased taxation. Those increases were :—(1) Postage to Great Britain and France and French and British Possessions advanced to 2d. (or 20c.) per 20 grammes ; (2) Port Dues raised from 3d. (30c.) to 5d. (50c.) per ton ; (3) Import Duties on tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, and spirits, raised from 11½d. (Frs.1·20) to 1s. 7d. (Frs.2·00), 3s. 2½d. (Frs.4·00) to 5s. 7d. (Frs.7·00), and 10s. 10d. (Frs.13·50) to 18s. (Frs.22·50) respectively ; and (4) Export Duties of £4 and 10s. per ton were imposed on trochus shell and copra. Much of the increase

in receipts of Import Duties was due to an alteration in the system of calculating the rates in French currency of imports invoiced in British currency. Previously such rates had been calculated at the par rate of Frs.25·00 to pound sterling, a system which obviously operated greatly to the prejudice of the Condominium Treasury. Provision was accordingly made that the values of such goods when import duty is paid in French currency should be calculated at the current rate of exchange. Telephone subscriptions were raised from £2 to £6 per annum.

There is no public debt.

POPULATION.

The statement of the non-native population below gives all the information available under this head, and shows the settlers of pure European descent to number 946, and the Asiatic and others 354, a total of 1,300. Those of French birth outnumber the British by nearly 150 per cent., and show an increase of 65 since 1910, while the decrease in the number of British born in the same period amounts to 26. In 1910 the numbers were 566 and 288, respectively.

As regards the distribution of the European population, nearly 50 per cent. of the French are settled in the town of Vila and neighbourhood, Santo coming next in this respect. Of the British less than one quarter are resident in Vila ; the greater proportion are in the islands. There are no French in the Southern Islands, nor in the Banks Group.

Of the British subjects it will be noticed that those born in the British Isles and the Dominions respectively are about equal in number. As my information is incomplete as to the places of origin of the wives of the settlers who come under this head, I have included them with their husbands. French settlers born in New Caledonia are considered as of French birth.

The decrease in the British population is chiefly due to the reduction of the stations of the Presbyterian Missions. In 1910 there were 22 missionaries of that denomination with their families in the group. At the present time there are but 11.

The native population is estimated at 58,700. The total, it will be noticed, shows a falling off from that given in my report of 1910 of about 7,000. I was prepared to find a much greater diminution than my figures show ; but although there has undoubtedly been much mortality on some islands due to dysentery and other affections that have at times almost assumed an epidemic form, other islands can, I believe, even boast an annual increase.

BRITISH.

FRENCH.

Description.	Adult Males.	Females and children.	Totals.	Description.	Adult Males.	Females and children.	Totals.	Grand Total.
British Subjects :—				French Citizens :—				
British born	57	67	124	French birth (a)	275	356	631	755
Dominion born (Australia, New Zealand and Canada)	49	72	121	„ Colonies (b)	25	—	25	146
Colonies	7	10	17	„ Colonies (Asiatics) (c)	165	—	165	187
„ (Asiatics)	5(a)	—	5					
Foreign subjects under British régime :—	118	149	267	Foreign subjects under French régime :—	465	356	821	
European	10	11	21	European	14	18	32	53
Asiatic	29(b)	—	29	Asiatics (d)	130	—	130	159
Totals	157	160	317		609	374	983	1,300

(a) Chinese.

(b) Chinese, 23 ; Japanese, 6.

(a) Many of these are natives of New Caledonia, but number cannot be given.

(b) Natives (aboriginals) of Loyalty Islands.

(c) Natives of Indo-China Protectorate. Some are females, but number cannot be given.

(d) Javanese 72. Number of females cannot be given.

Chinese 31. No females.

Japanese 27. No females.

Analysis :— Of pure European descent 946
Of Asiatic origin 329
Of Melanesian origin 25

1,300

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The principal Missions operating in the group are :—(1) The Presbyterian, whose sphere of influence may be said to be the Southern Group and the Central, with the exception of Aoba, Pentecost, and Maeovo; and (2) The Marist (Roman Catholic), whose operations extend all over the Central Group with the exception of Maeovo. The Melanesian Mission (Anglican) works on Aoba, Pentecost, Maeovo, and the Banks and Torres Groups; while the Seventh Day Adventists and Church of Christ have small followings on Malekula, Santo, Aoba, and Pentecost.

The only place of worship in the Group that is not a Mission Church is the Roman Catholic " Cathedral " at Vila.

EDUCATION.

There are three primary schools in the town of Vila, one of which was built (in 1916), and is entirely maintained, by the French Government. It has 14 scholars, all girls. The other two, which are maintained by the Marist Mission and the Sisters of St. Joseph respectively, have 42 boys and 29 girls.

Numerous schools are provided for natives by the various Missions.

CURRENCY, BANKING, &c.

With the imposition of Customs Duties in 1913, British gold and silver, that had hitherto formed the bulk of the coin in circulation in the Group, began to grow scarce and to be replaced by French. The disappearance was gradual but sure, and at the present time gold is never seen, and silver but rarely in the town. In some of the islands, however, a certain quantity of shillings and florins remain in circulation, as the natives positively refuse to accept French paper in payment of their produce, and, it may be added, show no especial liking for British. The disappearance of British coin was followed at no long interval by that of French silver (French gold has always been unknown in the Group) and small change; but whereas French paper remained, British bank notes seemed to disappear as soon as they left the payers' hands. What has been the fate of the British and French coin that was in the Group can only be conjectured; all the French, and the bulk of the British, has probably been exported; and natives are known to have a certain quantity of British coin—both gold and silver—still in their possession. It is possible that they have even larger amounts than is suspected to which they are adding periodically what they receive in payment for their produce, and of which but little ever appears to get into circulation again. A Joint Regulation was issued during the year prohibiting the export of coin. The Group had already been drained; but it is hoped it may have the effect of keeping within its limits such quantities at least as may be imported in the future.

The dearth of small change resulting from the conditions referred to above has, of course, caused great inconvenience to the commercial world and to the public in general. As a consequence various substitutes, chief among them being postage stamps, came into unofficial circulation. Towards the close of the year a small quantity of new French nickel coinage came into the Group, and it is hoped that by means of gradually increasing supplies of this medium the substitutes adopted may be driven out of circulation.

IMPORTS.

The total imports for 1920 were valued at £159,174. I regret that I am unable to furnish details of the quantities and values of the different articles imported into the Group. The staff of the Customs Office is too limited in number, and the members have to spend too much time absent from headquarters to admit of their keeping very elaborate books. The principal items are, however, wearing apparel, preserved meats, manufactures of metal, rice, wines, spirits and beer, tobacco, piece goods, biscuits, and flour. The country of origin in respect of probably eighty per cent. of the goods has been Great Britain, as, for reasons connected with the scarcity of shipping, Australia has, since 1915, become the supply *dépôt* for both New Caledonia and the New Hebrides. A certain quantity was probably of Japanese and American origin; cotton goods and matches of very inferior quality from Japan; and wines, canned fruits, &c., from the United States (California). Matches were also imported from Holland, Norway, and Sweden; sugar from the Dutch East Indies; and rice from Burmah and French Indo-China. All passed through Australia, which, for our purpose, is regarded as the country of origin.

Prior to 1914, New Caledonia and the French houses of business in the New Hebrides drew their supplies from France, New Caledonia being then served by a monthly steamer of the Messageries Maritimes Line from Marseilles, consignments for the New Hebrides being transhipped at Nouméa to a smaller vessel of the same Line which worked between Sydney and Vila, via Nouméa, in connection with the Marseilles-Nouméa boat. In 1915 the monthly service from Marseilles to Nouméa was, however, discontinued, and by its discontinuance the regular supplies from France were cut off, New Caledonia and the French of the New Hebrides having thenceforth to rely upon Australia. The direct communication that New Caledonia now has with France is by means of one vessel, also of the Messageries Maritimes Line, which is loaded at Marseilles towards the end of each year and despatched to Nouméa, returning with accumulations of New Hebrides and New Caledonian produce.

The valuation of the imports is merely an estimate. The invoices of a large proportion of the goods necessarily show the values in French currency, and in view of the continually varying rate of exchange it is obviously almost impossible to fix the correct equivalent in sterling. The same remark applies to the valuations of the exports from the Group.

EXPORTS.

Detailed Statement showing quantities and value of articles exported during 1920.

						Tons.	£
Copra	..	..	..	..	..	3,002	105,070
Cotton	..	..	..	..	..	2,345	75,040
Cocoa	..	..	..	..	..	329	28,623
Coffee..	..	..	..	..	..	297	17,820
Maize	..	..	..	..	..	672	7,392
Sandalwood	..	..	..	..	..	79	2,528
Wool	..	..	..	..	..	33	990
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	270	7,724
Total	..	..	..	..	..		245,187

Copra heads the list in point of quantity and value, the next in importance being cotton. The bulk of the copra was shipped to the United States. Cotton naturally went to Europe, as did coffee. A certain quantity of cocoa was taken by Australia, where it is hoped the demand for this article will increase; indeed in time it is not impossible that a market for the whole of the New Hebrides will be found in Australia. Such of the cocoa exported that was not consigned to Sydney was shipped through to Europe. Maize was mostly shipped for Australian consumption, whilst sandal wood and trochus were taken by China and Japan.

Unfortunately towards the end of the year under report, the general depression of trade was noticeable in the demand for most of our products; all prices fell considerably; in fact for some articles the demand appears to have entirely ceased. The prospect therefore for the current year is far from encouraging.

SHIPPING.

Thirteen British vessels, total net tonnage 5407, and 29 French vessels (including one sailing ship), total net tonnage 9,837 entered during 1920.

The British steam vessels entered and cleared from Vila during the year were the subsidised mail steamer (Burns, Philp Line); the Melanesian Mission Yacht; and three others. The French were the subsidised mail steamer (Messageries Maritimes Line); two vessels belonging to firms trading in the Group, and small vessels from Nouméa, New Caledonia.

PRODUCTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Maize is cultivated by both British and French; coffee and cocoa almost entirely by French, and cotton by British and French and natives. If the present "slump" in the prices of produce continues the natives will probably abandon cotton cultivation as suddenly as they took it up. The production of maize during the year was about 700 tons, of coffee 300 tons, of cocoa 330 tons.

Although sugar-cane grows well in a semi-wild state it is a curious fact that its cultivation appears never to have been taken up in this Group. The climatic conditions would also appear to be favourable for tea.

Bananas were some fifteen years ago produced in large quantities, and shipped to Australia. The cultivation appears to have been abandoned as facilities for shipping ceased to be available.

Wool and hides were produced to the value of about £1,000 each. Fishing for trochas shell is carried on by Japanese. Edible fish are also caught, but not as a regular industry.

Sulphur deposits are said to exist in the Banks Islands. It is doubtful, however, if the "mines" could be worked at a profit.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The following table gives the more important average retail prices of the year. The tendency at the end of the year was upward.

						£	s.	d.
Wheaten Flour	..	..	..	..	per bag 150-lb.	3	2	0
Wheat	..	..	..	..	per Imperial bushel			
Wheaten Bread	..	..	..	..	.. per lb.			4½
Horned Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	7	0	0
Horses	..	..	..	..	..	12	0	0
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	0
Goats	..	..	..	..	..		10	0
Swine	..	..	..	..	per lb. live weight			6½
Milk	..	..	..	..	per quart			6
Butter, Fresh	..	..	..	..	per lb.	4	3	
„ Tinned	..	..	..	..	.. „ „	4	6	
Cheese	..	..	..	..	.. „ „	2	0	
Eggs	..	..	..	..	per dozen	5	0	

<i>continued—</i>							£	s.	d.
Beef	..	..	..	..	..	.. per lb.			4
Mutton	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "		1	9½
Pork, Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "		3	6
Rice	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "			6½
Coffee	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "		1	2
Cocoa	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "		1	5
Tea	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "		3	6
Sugar	..	..	..	..	..	.. " "			10
Salt	..	..	..	..	Table, per	1½-lb jar		1	1½
Wine	..	..	..	..	Ordinaire, per	bottle		1	10
Brandy	..	..	..	..	Three Star	..		15	0
Beer	..	..	..	..	..	..		1	6
Tobacco	..	..	..	..	per lb.,	Capstan		10	0
Kerosine Oil	..	..	..	..	..	per case		1	9 0
Soap, Common	..	..	..	..	..	per lb.			9

Note.—Exchange is calculated at an average of 50 francs to the £ sterling.

The usual wage of unskilled native labour at Vila was 6s. a day, but lower wages were prevalent in the Northern Islands. Native servants, male, £18; female, £12 a year. Native bullock drivers, £36; plantation hands, £14 8s. a year, with board, lodging and clothing. Unskilled white labour, 14s. a day.

HOSPITALS.

The John G. Paton Memorial Hospital is supported by Presbyterian Mission funds, and is aided by a grant of £250 per annum from Imperial funds. The daily average of patients in hospital during 1920 was 23.

There is another hospital in the town of Vila which is maintained by the French Government. It is under the charge of a Medical Officer of the French Colonial Army.

The Presbyterian Mission hospitals on the islands of Tanna, Wala, and Santo, are unfortunately closed from want of medical men to put in charge.

The French Government has it in contemplation to station a medical man at the Second Channel, on the island of Santo. A small hospital is also to be built and equipped at that place.

The New Hebrides have happily, so far, been spared a visitation of pneumonic influenza.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

A radiotelegraph station, worked by two operators, was opened at Vila in 1916. In 1920, six hundred and sixteen messages with a total of seventeen thousand, six hundred and

eighty-seven (17,687) words, were handled. The station has not been in full working order during the year, otherwise the traffic would have been considerably greater.

The estimated number of letters dealt with in 1920 was 34,800 ; of postcards 2,150 ; of parcels 1,775. Book packets, circulars, etc., weighed about 10,000 kilograms.

No postal or money order system exists.

M. KING,

Resident Commissioner.

British Residency,

Vila.

23rd May, 1921.

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1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
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1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	"
1098	Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
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84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds. Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.



COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1100.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For previous Report, see No. 1051.)



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1922.

Price 6d. Net.

the revenue of the year amounted to £58,992, which was
£1,445 more than the revenue of the year 1919-20.

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Other sources of revenue were :-

- Port and Harbour Dues
- Excises, etc.
- Revenue of Court, etc.
- Revenue of Telegraphs
- Revenue of other sources

The revenue of the year 1919-20 was £57,547, which was £1,445 less than the revenue of the year 1918-19.

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure was £208,401, a decrease of £114,588 under last year.

The main causes of this decrease were :—

- (i) Liabilities outstanding at the end of the year and deferred services carried forward amounting to £30,868.
- (ii) Depreciation in the rate of exchange of the local currency of the Indian rupee, thereby increasing the purchasing power of British sterling.
- (iii) Reduction of military expenditure owing to cessation of operations against the Mullah.
- (iv) Reduction in strength of tribal posts in the interior.

Financial position on the 31st March, 1921.

5. The statement of Assets and Liabilities was as follows :—

Net liabilities on 1st April, 1920 ..	£ 31,369	£
Expenditure, 1920-1921	208,401	
	<hr/>	239,770
Revenue, 1920-1921	58,992	
Grant-in-Aid.. ..	210,000	268,992
	<hr/>	
Surplus ..		29,222

This surplus balance is calculated at Rs.15 to £ sterling, but from April 1st, 1921, the accounts of the Protectorate are being kept at Rs.10 to the £, and on this basis a sum of £43,833 will be brought forward, from which must be deducted £30,868 in respect of liabilities and deferred services outstanding at the close of the year. A working balance of £12,965 is thus left.

Currency and Banking.

6. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :— 1 pie, $\frac{1}{2}$ pice, pice, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate. The average monthly rate of exchange with London was 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to the rupee.

7. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian Coins	Rs.10,00,000
Indian Notes	Rs.1,50,000

8. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

III. TRADE AND SHIPPING.

9. The value of the Protectorate trade at the three principal ports for the calendar year 1920 amounted to Rs.81,85,370, as follows :—

Imports	..	..	..	..	Rs.53,52,580
Exports	..	..	..	..	Rs.28,32,790

This represented a decrease of Rs.21,95,610 in imports and Rs.6,32,377 in exports under last year, 1919-1920.

10. The import trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	..	..	..	..	Rs.39,91,475
Bulhar	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,75,365
Zeyla	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,85,740

the ratio of decrease being 1·38, 1·49, 1·6.

11. The principal imports were :—

	1920.	1919-1920.	Decrease.
American grey sheetings	264,317 yds.	523,573	50 per cent.
Dates	45,894 cwt.	69,538	33 "
Rice	72,552 "	141 408	49 "
Sugar	8,927 "	13,371	33 "
Country grey sheetings	866,007 yds.	2,405,630	65 "
Europe White Long cloth	671,286 "	706,100	5 "

12. The export trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	..	..	..	..	Rs.16,16,725
Bulhar	..	..	..	..	Rs. 5,70,480
Zeyla	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,45,585

the ratio of decrease being 3·36, 1·45, and 1·25.

13. The principal exports were :—

	1920.	1919-1920.	Increase. 1920.	Decrease.
Bullocks.. ..	1,372	1,675	—	19 per cent.
Sheep and Goats	72,802	61,483	18 per cent.	—
Skins	725,641	1,238,821	—	42 "
Hides .. cwt.	1,444	3,415	—	58 "
Ghee	2,423	445	444 per cent.	—
Gum	3,449	7,244	—	53 "

The increases are due to a steady demand in Aden for meat and to exceptional rains giving an abundant supply of grazing which increased the output of milk.

Land Customs.

14. The Customs station at Gabile on the Abyssinian frontier recorded 26,687 cwt. of millet imported from Abyssinia, being an increase of 3,150 cwt. over the previous year.

The land Customs station at Zeyla recorded 2,536 head of live stock and 9,928 cwt. of salt exported, being a decrease of 126 head and 227 cwt. respectively.

15. New Customs stations were established late in the year on the coast east of Berbera at Hais, Elaiya, and Las Khorai.

Shipping.

16. The following is a comparative table of the shipping entered and cleared in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1919-1920.		1920.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered	1,740	48,278	1,794	58,243
Cleared	1,730	48,913	1,792	58,758

IV. EDUCATION.

17. There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar and Zeyla. The average attendance at each was 74, 13, and 36, which shows practically no change from last year. The pupils are children of local Indian and Arab traders, with a few Somalis. Instruction is in Arabic.

18. During the year the Chief Inspector of Schools of the Sudan Government visited the Protectorate for the purpose of advising as to the best system on which education in the Protectorate might be extended. On his report a scheme for increased educational facilities for the natives of the Protectorate has been drawn up, and this will be carried out as soon as funds can be made available for the purpose.

V. MEDICAL.

19. The total number of patients admitted to hospitals during 1920 was 1,998, or 606 less than in the previous year. The out-patients treated numbered 17,145, or 2,771 less than in the previous year. The decrease is due :—

- (i) to the abatement of the small-pox epidemic ;
- (ii) increased prosperity of the native population owing to a good season ; and
- (iii) migration of the natives into areas distant from Government stations owing to the removal of the menace of the Mullah.

20. General Diseases.—Scurvy cases decreased from 132 with no deaths to 55 with 2 deaths.

Ulcer cases decreased from 5,260 to 4,654 ; but this probably does not represent a true decrease, as many advanced cases may be expected to be seen in the spring of 1921, when the natives begin to congregate near Government stations.

Malaria cases decreased from 500 with one death to 257 with one death. The steady decline in this disease is due greatly to fewer cases of undetermined fever being included under this diagnosis.

Most stations under medical supervision are comparatively free from mosquitos.

Relapsing fever shows a decrease from 109 cases with one death to 64 cases with four deaths, but it is probable that this does not represent a true record of the disease. Hitherto the disease has been confined to Hargeisa, but during the year an epidemic broke out in Burao. This was found to be clinically and microscopically different from the Hargeisa type, and it is interesting to note that all evidence so far available goes to point to the bed-bug being the vector.

Small-Pox.—This disease, which had been epidemic since 1918, had nearly disappeared by the end of the year. The total cases reported amounted to 394 with 58 deaths. This is probably erroneous as the report from the Warsangli area was 236 cases with only 11 deaths. The figures for the rest of the Protectorate, 158 cases with 47 deaths, probably show a truer proportionate mortality.

Chicken-pox.—74 cases with one death were reported, as against 104 cases and two deaths.

Influenza.—283 cases with two deaths were reported. The form of the disease was mild.

Measles.—63 cases with one death were reported.

Dysentery.—This disease is on the increase ; 148 cases being reported as against 59.

Venereal Diseases again show an increase ; gonorrhœa numbering 539 cases as against 516, and syphilis numbering 300 cases as against 262. An attempt was made in Berbera to introduce prophylactic treatment among the Police, and though this helped to reduce wastage among the Police its influence did not extend outside the force.

Tuberculosis showed a decrease of 263 cases as against 300, probably due to better nourishment of the natives owing to the good season.

21. The general health of the European officers was much as in former years, the average number resident being 45.7, while the number on the sick list was 38 ; two were invalided to England.

22. The following statistics represent the work in the various hospitals of the Protectorate.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Isolation.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	752	7,146	40	83.8
Burao and Sheikh ..	385	313	59	4.2
Zeyla	140	2,490	30	27.1
Hargeisa	72	2,970	38	37.0
Las Khorai	173	1,691	236	11.8
Bulhar	43	2,536	—	16.0

23. In December a commencement was made with the building of a new hospital in Berbera.

VI. METEOROLOGY.

24. The total rainfall at Berbera during the year was 2.29 inches as against 2.31 inches in 1919. The maximum shade temperature recorded was 113° Fahr. in June, while the minimum was 62° in January and December. Records from the inland stations are still incomplete: the rainfall there is considerably heavier.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

Police.

25. The Police establishment was a Commandant, an Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons), five District Police Officers, three British Warrant Officers, and 537 native rank and file.

In addition to their Police duties the District Police Officers also assisted in administrative work in the districts to which they were posted.

The Warrant Officers were seconded for a period of three years from British regiments. The rank and file were recruited locally.

Judicial.

26. Apart from inter-tribal affrays and tribal stock thefts in the interior, which were treated as political cases, the majority of criminal cases dealt with in the Protectorate Courts during the year were not of a serious nature.

<i>continued—</i>							£	s.	d.
Beef per lb.			4
Mutton " "		1	9½
Pork, Bacon " "		3	6
Rice " "			6½
Coffee " "		1	2
Cocoa " "		1	5
Tea " "		3	6
Sugar " "			10
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Kerosine Oil	per case		1	9
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Note.—Exchange is calculated at an average of 50 francs to the £ sterling.

The usual wage of unskilled native labour at Vila was 6s. a day, but lower wages were prevalent in the Northern Islands. Native servants, male, £18; female, £12 a year. Native bullock drivers, £36; plantation hands, £14 8s. a year, with board, lodging and clothing. Unskilled white labour, 14s. a day.

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1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
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1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Caymen Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"

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83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
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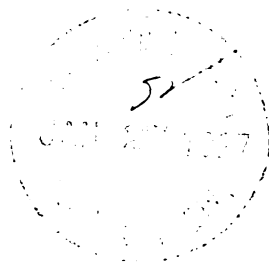
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1100.

SOMALILAND.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For previous Report, see No. 1051.)



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No. 1100.

SOMALILAND.**REPORT ON SOMALILAND FOR THE YEAR 1920.****I. POLITICAL AND GENERAL.**

1. As a result of the overthrow of the "Mad Mullah," Mohammed Abdullah Hassan, which took place in January, 1920, as described in the Annual Report for 1919–1920, the Protectorate enjoyed a quiet and uneventful year, during which the native tribes were able to make use of extended grazing grounds which had formerly been closed to them by the menace of the Mullah.

The Mullah continued to reside with a few followers at Imi in Abyssinian territory but caused no further trouble.

2. Excellent grazing conditions, due to the rainfall, and extended grazing areas have resulted in a prosperous year for the native inhabitants.

II. FINANCIAL, 1920–1921.*Revenue.*

3. The revenue for the year amounted to £58,992, which was a decrease of £22,878 under last year.

The Customs receipts, which form the main item of revenue, fell from £71,446 in 1919–1920 to £48,284. This was due to:—

- (i) a slump in the skin and hide trade ;
- (ii) reduction in imported foodstuffs owing both to restrictions on their export from India by the Indian Government and to excellent rains giving the natives adequate supplies of milk and meat ;
- (iii) reduction of number of troops in the country owing to operations against the Mullah being at an end.

Other sources of revenue were :—

Port and Harbour Dues	..	..	..	..	£
Licences, Excise, etc.	..	..	..	..	132
Fees of Court, etc.	..	..	..	..	3,294
Posts and Telegraphs	..	..	..	..	3,527
Miscellaneous receipts	..	..	..	..	2,666
					1,087

The Parliamentary Grant-in-Aid was £210,000 in all, as compared with £199,000 in the previous year.

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure was £208,401, a decrease of £114,588 under last year.

The main causes of this decrease were :—

- (i) Liabilities outstanding at the end of the year and deferred services carried forward amounting to £30,868.
- (ii) Depreciation in the rate of exchange of the local currency of the Indian rupee, thereby increasing the purchasing power of British sterling.
- (iii) Reduction of military expenditure owing to cessation of operations against the Mullah.
- (iv) Reduction in strength of tribal posts in the interior.

Financial position on the 31st March, 1921.

5. The statement of Assets and Liabilities was as follows :—

Net liabilities on 1st April, 1920 ..	£ 31,369	£
Expenditure, 1920-1921	208,401	
	<hr/>	239,770
Revenue, 1920-1921	58,992	
Grant-in-Aid.. ..	210,000	268,992
	<hr/>	
Surplus ..		29,222

This surplus balance is calculated at Rs.15 to £ sterling, but from April 1st, 1921, the accounts of the Protectorate are being kept at Rs.10 to the £, and on this basis a sum of £43,833 will be brought forward, from which must be deducted £30,868 in respect of liabilities and deferred services outstanding at the close of the year. A working balance of £12,965 is thus left.

Currency and Banking.

6. The monetary unit current in the Protectorate is the Indian rupee. The following Indian coins are also in circulation :— 1 pie, $\frac{1}{2}$ pice, pice, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, 1, 2, 4 and 8 annas. Bank of England and Government of India notes also circulate. The average monthly rate of exchange with London was 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to the rupee.

7. The estimated value of currency in circulation at the close of the year was :—

Indian Coins	Rs.10,00,000
Indian Notes	Rs.1,50,000

8. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a private firm, Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, accepts deposits from private individuals and cashes cheques drawn against them.

III. TRADE AND SHIPPING.

9. The value of the Protectorate trade at the three principal ports for the calendar year 1920 amounted to Rs.81,85,370, as follows :—

Imports	..	..	..	..	Rs.53,52,580
Exports	..	..	..	..	Rs.28,32,790

This represented a decrease of Rs.21,95,610 in imports and Rs.6,32,377 in exports under last year, 1919-1920.

10. The import trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	..	..	..	..	Rs.39,91,475
Bulhar	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,75,365
Zeyla	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,85,740

the ratio of decrease being 1·38, 1·49, 1·6.

11. The principal imports were :—

	1920.	1919-1920.	Decrease.
American grey sheetings	264,317 yds.	523,573	50 per cent.
Dates	45,894 cwt.	69,538	33 "
Rice	72,552 "	141 408	49 "
Sugar	8,927 "	13,371	33 "
Country grey sheetings	866,007 yds.	2,405,630	65 "
Europe White Long cloth	671,286 "	706,100	5 "

12. The export trade was divided as follows :—

Berbera	..	..	..	..	Rs.16,16,725
Bulhar	..	..	..	..	Rs. 5,70,480
Zeyla	..	..	..	..	Rs. 6,45,585

the ratio of decrease being 3·36, 1·45, and 1·25.

13. The principal exports were :—

	1920.	1919-1920.	Increase. 1920.	Decrease.
Bullocks	1,372	1,675	—	19 per cent.
Sheep and Goats	72,802	61,483	18 per cent.	—
Skins	725,641	1,238,821	—	42 "
Hides .. cwt.	1,444	3,415	—	58 "
Ghee	2,423	445	444 per cent.	—
Gum	3,449	7,244	—	53 "

The increases are due to a steady demand in Aden for meat and to exceptional rains giving an abundant supply of grazing which increased the output of milk.

Land Customs.

14. The Customs station at Gabile on the Abyssinian frontier recorded 26,687 cwt. of millet imported from Abyssinia, being an increase of 3,150 cwt. over the previous year.

The land Customs station at Zeyla recorded 2,536 head of live stock and 9,928 cwt. of salt exported, being a decrease of 126 head and 227 cwt. respectively.

15. New Customs stations were established late in the year on the coast east of Berbera at Hais, Elaiya, and Las Khorai.

Shipping.

16. The following is a comparative table of the shipping entered and cleared in the Protectorate ports during the past two years :—

	1919-1920.		1920.	
	Nos.	Tons.	Nos.	Tons.
Entered	1,740	48,278	1,794	58,243
Cleared	1,730	48,913	1,792	58,758

IV. EDUCATION.

17. There are three Government schools in the Protectorate, at Berbera, Bulhar and Zeyla. The average attendance at each was 74, 13, and 36, which shows practically no change from last year. The pupils are children of local Indian and Arab traders, with a few Somalis. Instruction is in Arabic.

18. During the year the Chief Inspector of Schools of the Sudan Government visited the Protectorate for the purpose of advising as to the best system on which education in the Protectorate might be extended. On his report a scheme for increased educational facilities for the natives of the Protectorate has been drawn up, and this will be carried out as soon as funds can be made available for the purpose.

V. MEDICAL.

19. The total number of patients admitted to hospitals during 1920 was 1,998, or 606 less than in the previous year. The out-patients treated numbered 17,145, or 2,771 less than in the previous year. The decrease is due :—

- (i) to the abatement of the small-pox epidemic ;
- (ii) increased prosperity of the native population owing to a good season ; and
- (iii) migration of the natives into areas distant from Government stations owing to the removal of the menace of the Mullah.

20. *General Diseases*.—Scurvy cases decreased from 132 with no deaths to 55 with 2 deaths.

Ulcer cases decreased from 5,260 to 4,654; but this probably does not represent a true decrease, as many advanced cases may be expected to be seen in the spring of 1921, when the natives begin to congregate near Government stations.

Malaria cases decreased from 500 with one death to 257 with one death. The steady decline in this disease is due greatly to fewer cases of undetermined fever being included under this diagnosis.

Most stations under medical supervision are comparatively free from mosquitos.

Relapsing fever shows a decrease from 109 cases with one death to 64 cases with four deaths, but it is probable that this does not represent a true record of the disease. Hitherto the disease has been confined to Hargeisa, but during the year an epidemic broke out in Burao. This was found to be clinically and microscopically different from the Hargeisa type, and it is interesting to note that all evidence so far available goes to point to the bed-bug being the vector.

Small-Pox.—This disease, which had been epidemic since 1918, had nearly disappeared by the end of the year. The total cases reported amounted to 394 with 58 deaths. This is probably erroneous as the report from the Warsangli area was 236 cases with only 11 deaths. The figures for the rest of the Protectorate, 158 cases with 47 deaths, probably show a truer proportionate mortality.

Chicken-pox.—74 cases with one death were reported, as against 104 cases and two deaths.

Influenza.—283 cases with two deaths were reported. The form of the disease was mild.

Measles.—63 cases with one death were reported.

Dysentery.—This disease is on the increase; 148 cases being reported as against 59.

Venereal Diseases again show an increase; gonorrhœa numbering 539 cases as against 516, and syphilis numbering 300 cases as against 262. An attempt was made in Berbera to introduce prophylactic treatment among the Police, and though this helped to reduce wastage among the Police its influence did not extend outside the force.

Tuberculosis showed a decrease of 263 cases as against 300, probably due to better nourishment of the natives owing to the good season.

21. The general health of the European officers was much as in former years, the average number resident being 45.7, while the number on the sick list was 38 ; two were invalided to England.

22. The following statistics represent the work in the various hospitals of the Protectorate.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Isolation.	Average daily attendance.
Berbera	752	7,146	40	83.8
Burao and Sheikh ..	385	313	59	4.2
Zeyla	140	2,490	30	27.1
Hargeisa	72	2,970	38	37.0
Las Khorai	173	1,691	236	11.8
Bulhar	43	2,536	—	16.0

23. In December a commencement was made with the building of a new hospital in Berbera.

VI. METEOROLOGY.

24. The total rainfall at Berbera during the year was 2.29 inches as against 2.31 inches in 1919. The maximum shade temperature recorded was 113° Fahr. in June, while the minimum was 62° in January and December. Records from the inland stations are still incomplete: the rainfall there is considerably heavier.

VII. POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

Police.

25. The Police establishment was a Commandant, an Assistant Commandant (who is also Director of Prisons), five District Police Officers, three British Warrant Officers, and 537 native rank and file.

In addition to their Police duties the District Police Officers also assisted in administrative work in the districts to which they were posted.

The Warrant Officers were seconded for a period of three years from British regiments. The rank and file were recruited locally.

Judicial.

26. Apart from inter-tribal affrays and tribal stock thefts in the interior, which were treated as political cases, the majority of criminal cases dealt with in the Protectorate Courts during the year were not of a serious nature.

27. Some cases of highway robbery on the caravan routes occurred during the year. These were the only serious cases and were mostly perpetrated by gangs of men, who, having lost their own live-stock, were unable to maintain themselves. This type of crime is, however, decreasing, as the natives are recovering the losses they sustained at the hands of the dervishes, and the country is getting more settled.

28. Cases of theft were confined to the towns, and were mostly of a trivial nature.

VIII. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Posts.

29. The following is a comparative table of postal statistics during the past two years :—

	1919-20.		1920-21.
Letters	201,329	.. .	170,921
Post-cards	1,705	..	1,424
Newspapers	19,552	..	18,323
Book Packets	2,135	..	2,210
Parcels	2,464	..	1,898

30. The money order transactions amounted to Rs.2,49,688, as compared with Rs.3,80,190 of the previous year, the decrease being due to the unfavourable rates of exchange and high commissions prevailing, the former also materially affecting the sales of postal orders and postage stamps.

31. The expenditure and revenue were £1,193 and £2,058, as compared with £1,114 and £2,235, respectively, of 1919-1920.

Telegraphs.

32. Wireless stations were in operation at :—

Berbera ..	1½	kilowatt power
Burao ..	1½	„ „
Hargeisa ..	1½	„ „
Las Dureh	1½	„ „
Bulhar ..	½	„ „

Berbera station maintained communication with Aden throughout the year.

There is a land line from Berbera to Sheikh.

33. The weekly mail service from Aden has been continued throughout the year, the mails being carried in steamers belonging to Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers. The mails are distributed from Berbera throughout the Protectorate by dhow to Bulhar, Zeyla, and Las Khorai, and by runner or car, as occasion offers, to Sheikh, Burao and Hargeisa. Mails are sent overland from Hargeisa to Harrar in Abyssinia irregularly when need arises.

34. The use of motor traffic was extended during the year. Ford cars are now regularly in use from :—

Berbera to Lower Sheikh	..	40	miles
Upper Sheikh to Burao	..	39	miles
Burao to Hargeisa	.. ..	107	miles
Hargeisa to Gabile	.. ..	35	miles

Motorable tracks are also in course of construction from Burao to Eil Dab in the Ain Valley *via* Kirrit. The escarpment between Lower and Upper Sheikh prevents an unbroken run, causing a gap of some three miles which must be traversed on foot or horseback.

IX. MILITARY.

35. As the outcome of the successful operations against the dervishes in January and February, 1920, it has been possible considerably to reduce the military garrison of the Protectorate. During the year the temporary garrison of Indian infantry has returned to India. The Somaliland Camel Corps, which at the beginning of the year consisted of four mounted companies and a Depôt Company, has been reduced to two mounted and one dismounted companies and a Depôt Company.

36. During the year it has been possible to reduce the tribal posts, and in consequence the force of irregulars has been disbanded.

37. In June and July the Mullah and his small following, who had halted after their flight on the northern side of the Webi Shabeli in Abyssinian territory, were followed up by a tribal levy and, losing such stock and property as they had since collected from their allies of the Bagheri tribe, they fled across the Webi Shabeli to Imi in the Arussi country 125 miles further into Abyssinian territory. Here the Mullah has remained as a fugitive and completely inactive with a few remaining followers. The two sons remaining with the Mullah died of disease during the year. Of the other 16, one, an infant, has not been traced since the overthrow of the dervishes, and the remainder were all accounted for as killed or captured in the operations.

Detachments of the Camel Corps remained in occupation of the areas recovered from the dervishes in the early part of the year, and were later withdrawn to more central positions at Sheikh, Geloka, and the Ain Valley.

H. B. KITTERMMASTER,
Secretary to the Administration.

The Secretariat,
British Somaliland,
5th October, 1921.

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1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
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1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
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85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
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92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by Sir C. Rodwell, K.C.M.G.

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No. 1101.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1048.)



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HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

The Straits Settlements, comprising Singapore, Penang and Malacca, were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament (29 and 30 Vict. c. 115).

SITUATION AND AREA.

SINGAPORE.

Singapore is an island of which the greatest length is about 27 miles by 14 wide, containing an area of 217 square miles, situated at the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula, from which it is separated by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width. There are a number of small islands adjacent to it which form part of the Settlement, which now comprises also Christmas Island, and the Cocos Islands.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island, in latitude $1^{\circ} 17'$ north, and longitude $103^{\circ} 50'$ east.

PENANG.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, containing an area of 108 square miles, situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula in 5° north latitude, and at the northern extremity or entrance to the Straits of Malacca. On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait from 2 to 10 miles broad, is Province Wellesley, a strip of territory forming part of the Settlement, averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, including 10 miles of territory to the south of the Krian river (*vide infra*), the whole containing an area of 280 square miles.

The chief town is George Town, in $5^{\circ} 24'$ north latitude, and $100^{\circ} 21'$ east longitude.

MALACCA.

Malacca is situated on the western coast of the peninsula between Singapore and Penang, about 110 miles from the former and 240 from the latter, and consists of a strip of

territory about 42 miles in length, and from 8 to 25 miles in breadth, containing an area of 720 square miles. The town, called Malacca, is in $2^{\circ} 10'$ north latitude, and $102^{\circ} 14'$ east longitude.

THE DINDINGS.

The Dindings, area about 183 square miles, include the island of Pangkor and a strip of territory opposite on the mainland, about 80 miles from Penang, in $4^{\circ} 15'$ north latitude, and $100^{\circ} 35'$ east longitude. Lumut, the headquarters on the mainland, possesses a fine harbour with deep anchorage, and arrangements have been made for coasting steamers to call regularly.

COCOS-KEELING ISLANDS.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands, which were declared a British possession in 1857, were placed, by Letters Patent of 13th October, 1878, under the control of the Governor of Ceylon, and by Letters Patent dated the 1st of February, 1886, under the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1903 they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore. The islands lie between latitude $11^{\circ} 50'$ to $12^{\circ} 45'$ south, longitude $96^{\circ} 50'$ east, 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is 5 miles by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil, and nuts are exported. In 1902 a station on the Cape-Australia cable route was established on Direction Island, in the north-eastern part of the group. The population numbers about 795.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

Christmas Island, situated in the Indian Ocean, 190 miles south of Java, latitude $10^{\circ} 30'$ south, longitude $105^{\circ} 40'$ east, was annexed in June, 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements by Letters Patent of 8th January, 1889. In 1900 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 62 square miles. In shape it is a rough parallelogram with deeply indented sides, its greatest length being about 12 miles, and its greatest breadth about 9 miles. The inhabitants, who number about 1,100, are all, with the exception of the District Officer and his staff, employes of the Christmas Island Phosphate Company, which was formed in 1897 to work the extensive deposits of phosphate of lime, to which the island owes its importance.

The total area of the Colony with these dependencies is about 1,600 square miles.

By Letters Patent issued at the end of 1906, provision was made for the incorporation of the Colony of Labuan in that of the Straits Settlements. The provision came into effect from the 1st of January, 1907. An account of Labuan will be found below.

MALACCA.

History.

Malacca, said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore, and known as an important independent State from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the East, having been captured by the Portuguese under ALBUQUERQUE in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was taken by the English, who held it till 1818. It was then restored to Holland, but was again transferred to British rule as a consequence of the Treaty of London (17th March, 1824), being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

When Malacca was captured by the Portuguese in 1511, it was one of the grand entrepôts for the commerce of the East, but as the Portuguese pushed their operations further to the east, in the archipelago and neighbouring countries, the trade of Malacca gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the establishment of Penang in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade almost ceased, and it became, what it has ever since been, a place of little commercial importance, but possessing great agricultural resources. The trade of the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra passed to Penang, which also carried on a large traffic with China, Siam, Borneo, the Celebes, and other places in the archipelago not under Dutch control; but no sooner was Singapore established than Penang in its turn had to yield the first place to Singapore, and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first unimportant, that trade has assumed enormous proportions, owing to the development of the rich tin areas and rubber-bearing lands of the Malay Peninsula.

PENANG.

Penang, or Prince of Wales' Island, was the first British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula, having been ceded to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in 1786, with the proviso that the sum of 6,000 dollars should be paid annually to the Raja of Kedah so long as the British occupied the island. In 1800, in consequence of the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was acquired from the Raja, the annual payment being in return increased to \$10,000. This has been subsequently enlarged from time to time, until it now extends from the Muda River to 10 miles south of the Krian River, a distance of 45 miles, containing in all 280 square miles. This province is in a high state of cultivation, the chief articles cultivated being padi, coconuts, and rubber. In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one government, Penang still remaining the seat of government. In 1836 the seat of government was transferred to Singapore.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded by Perak in 1826, with a view to the suppression of piracy, but no use was made of the cession at the time. In 1874 the cession of these islands was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which a strip of territory in the mainland opposite also became British. The whole now forms, under the name of the Dindings Territory, an outlying portion of the Settlement of Penang.

SINGAPORE.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose into prominence in the fourteenth century. Its greatness came to a sudden end in 1377, when it was sacked and destroyed by the Javanese, and thenceforth the island was scarcely inhabited until Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES took possession of it in 1819, by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen (Fort Marlborough) in Sumatra, but in 1823 it was placed under the Government of Bengal; in 1826 it was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

Climate.

The climate varies but little during the year. The mean temperature in Singapore for 1918 was 82.0° F.; in Penang 82.6° F.; in Province Wellesley, 82.7° F.; and in Malacca, 80.0° F. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures

were between 86.8° and 74.3° F. There are no well-marked rainy and dry seasons, the rainfall being pretty evenly distributed throughout the year. From carefully kept records of observations for a period of 10 years, from 1908 to 1917, it is found in Singapore that there is an annual average of 177 wet days; the average rainfall for the same period being 103.76 inches. In 1917 the mean rainfall in Singapore was 111.88 inches; in Penang 105.27 inches; in Province Wellesley 84.88 inches; in Malacca 109.83 inches; and in the Dindings 102.26 inches. The force of the monsoons is not much felt, though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time, viz., S.W. from May to October, N.E. from November to April. But it is nothing unusual to have south-east, south or south-west winds for portions of the day as early as March or April.

Population.

At the census taken in April, 1901 and 1911, the population of the Settlements was ascertained to be as follows:—

	1901.	1911.
	—	—
Singapore ...	228,555	311,985
Penang, Province Welles-		
ley and Dindings ...	258,207	278,003
Malacca ...	95,487	124,081
	—	—
Total ...	572,249	714,069

The following Banks have establishments in the Colony:—the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Mercantile Bank of India Limited; the Netherlands Trading Society; the International Banking Corporation; the Banque de l'Indo-Chine; the Netherlands India Commercial Bank; the Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company; Bank of Taiwan; Chinese Commercial Bank; Communication Bank; the Yokohama Specie Bank; the Ho Hong Bank; the Oversea Chinese Bank, and the China and Southern Bank.

LABUAN.

The Island of Labuan is situated on the north-west coast of Borneo, in $5^{\circ} 16'$ North latitude, and $115^{\circ} 15'$ East longitude. Its area is 28.6 square miles. It is distant from the coast, at the nearest point, about six miles; from Brunei, the capital of the Protected State of that name, about forty miles; and from Singapore 72.5 miles, or three days' steam.

The average annual rainfall is about 168 inches, and the thermometer ranges from 71° to 93°.

An attempt was made by the East India Company's servants, who were expelled from Balambangan by Sulu pirates in 1775, to establish a trading station in Labuan, but the project was soon abandoned, and for practical purposes the history of the island begins with its cession to Great Britain in 1846 by the Sultan of Brunei. It was then uninhabited. The reason for the cession, given in the treaty, by which the island was handed over to Great Britain, was that it was "desirable that British ships shall have some port where they may careen and refit, and deposit such stores and merchandise as shall be necessary for the carrying on of the trade with the dominions of Brunei", and the consideration given by Great Britain was an undertaking to suppress piracy and protect lawful trade.

The island was at first occupied only as a naval station under the control of a naval officer, and the formal establishment of a Crown Colony was deferred until 1848. From that date until the end of 1889, Labuan was governed as a separate Colony. Until 1869 it was assisted by grants-in-aid from the Imperial Exchequer, but this help was then withdrawn, and the Colony supported itself, though with difficulty, for the next twenty years. In 1889, the financial troubles came to a head, and, as it was thought that the island could be more economically governed in connection with the territories of the British North Borneo Company, the administration was entrusted, from the 1st January, 1890, to the care of the Company, whose principal representative in Borneo was given a commission as Governor of Labuan. This arrangement was terminated at the end of 1905, when Sir J. ANDERSON, Governor of the Straits Settlements, was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. On the 1st of January, 1907, Labuan was annexed to the Straits Settlements, and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore. On the 1st of December, 1912, the island was constituted a separate Settlement.

Labuan has a fine port (Victoria Harbour), perfectly safe, and easy of access. Vessels drawing 23 feet can go alongside the outside jetty (not at present in use), and vessels drawing 15 feet alongside the coaling jetties.

It is a market for much of the produce of the neighbouring coasts of Borneo and the Sulu Archipelago, such as sago, beeswax, edible birds' nests, camphor, gutta-percha, indiarubber, rattans, tortoise-shell, and beche-de-mer, which are forwarded by the Labuan traders to Singapore. Cattle and goats are reared, and 2,000 acres are estimated to be under cultivation. There are sago factories in the island, where the raw material received from the coast is converted into sago flour, which is exported to Singapore.

There is a branch of the Government Post Office Savings Bank in Labuan, but no other bank. The currency is Straits dollars and Straits subsidiary coins. Straits notes are also available in Labuan.

The inhabitants are chiefly Malays and other natives from Brunei, and Chinese, the latter being mostly petty traders.

The Eastern Extention, Australasia and China Telegraph Company has a station on the island connected by cable with Singapore, Hongkong and North Borneo. The nearest point in telegraphic communication with Europe is Singapore.

Population.

Census of 1881, 5,995, of whom 47 were Europeans.

Census of 1891, 5,853, of whom 28 were Europeans.

Census of 1901, 8,411, of whom 51 were Europeans.

Census of 1911, 6,546, of whom 34 were Europeans.

LANDS.

SINGAPORE.

Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown, either by lease or grant. The terms of the leases vary. A great portion of the land on which the town stands is held on building-leases for 99 years. The terms of the leases in the country are, for the most part, 99 and 999 years. A grant in a Statutory form is now the only Crown title issued. This is prescribed by Ordinance II of 1886.

The "permits", formerly issued in anticipation of survey, have all been called in and grants substituted for them. Certain Crown Reserves are held under annual licences. The quit-rent reserved in leases for lands in the country issued before October 15th, 1883, is 30 cents an acre; that on leases

issued subsequent to that date varies according to advantages of soil and situation, but is in no case less than 40 cents an acre. In all leases issued since October 15th, 1883, a condition is inserted under which the rent is re-adjustable every thirty years. Since the passing of the Crown Lands Ordinance of 1886, the only instrument of title is a Statutory Grant in perpetuity subject to a minimum quit-rent of 50 cents an acre readjustable every thirty years.

By Ordinance I of 1901, special powers are given to the Government with regard to leases of foreshore for periods not exceeding 100 years.

PENANG.

Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held of the Crown, as in Singapore, by grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. In Singapore eighteen and in Penang twenty different kinds of title are in the hands of the public. Unoccupied Crown land is obtainable on Statutory Grants as in Singapore, and Statutory Grants are also being substituted for Permits and Expired Leases. Alienation of foreshore is subject to Ordinance I of 1901.

The rates of rent reserved in old leases vary in different localities.

MALACCA.

The tenure of land in the town of Malacca has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch. Occupied land in the country is, in some cases, held either under grant or lease from the Crown, but for the most part according to customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Ordinance. There is special legislation, Ordinance I of 1901, for alienation of foreshore.

Land is now obtainable without premium if held under customary tenure, and with premium and a moderate quit-rent if held under Statutory Grant.

The principal land revenue consists of rents on rubber, tapioca and gambier leases and of mukim assessment under customary tenure.

REPORT ON THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1920.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Sir LAURENCE NUNNS GUILLEMARD, K.C.B., arrived in the Colony and assumed duty as Governor and Commander-in-Chief on the 3rd of February, 1920, Mr. F. S. JAMES, C.M.G., administering the Government from the beginning of the year until his arrival.

Mr. H. MARRIOTT acted as Colonial Secretary from the 1st January to the 3rd of February, when Mr. JAMES resumed that office. Sir J. W. MURISON acted as Colonial Secretary from the 13th of June, 1920, when Mr. JAMES went to the Federated Malay States to act as Chief Secretary, until the end of the year.

Sir J. A. S. BUCKNILL, Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements, left the Colony to take up an Indian appointment as Judge of the High Court, Patna, and Sir AUBREY GOODMAN was appointed in his place. His death early in 1921 is recorded with regret as a great loss to the public service.

The Commission on Profiteering under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Mr. W. F. NUTT, O.B.E., completed its labours in the latter half of the year and presented an extremely valuable report.

A Select Committee of the Legislative Council was appointed in November to consider "whether any and what changes are advisable in the Constitution of the Legislative Council" of the Colony.

M. CLEMENCEAU visited the Colony in October en route to Java.

The Compulsory Service Ordinance has not been put into force.

The year 1920 was not eventful in any peculiarly local sense, but it will long be remembered for its bright beginning and its gloomy end. Singapore, as the meeting place of the Eastern commerce of all nations, is naturally very sensitive to world conditions of trade. The brisk demand of the opening months and the slowness of delivery of goods caused prices to mount to unprecedented heights and tempted traders to indulge in heavy overtrading. A financial and industrial crisis in Japan and the general restriction of credit by banks in all parts of the world acted

and reacted on the falling price of rubber and tin. When the large quantities of goods ordered in the early weeks of the year began to arrive many traders were unable to take them up. Weak holders were forced to sell and prices declined from the abnormal levels of a few months earlier. Money and credit became scarcer and scarcer from June to December and anxiety increased. No money was available for any new local industries. There was also a conspicuous decline in American and Japanese competition and a number of these firms closed down. Rubber reached its highest point at \$1.15 per lb. in February and had fallen to 30 cents per lb. in December.

Tin rose to \$212 per picul on the 18th February and fell as low as \$90 on the 1st December.

The year 1919 had been one of reconstruction. The world was busy setting its house in order and the aim of all countries was to return as speedily as possible to normal pre-war conditions. Social and economic life had been everywhere unravelled and in many places broken by war restrictions and war conditions. At the outset of 1920 hopes ran as high as prices. No hope seemed too extravagant and no price too high. An era of unexampled prosperity appeared to have set in. The golden years had returned. Throughout the British Empire manufacturers found the world at their feet, and the Straits Settlements, standing at the gates of the Far East with a hinterland producing a large portion of two important raw materials—tin and rubber—seemed destined for no mean share of the general prosperity. Local produce was in great demand and any article imported could be sold immediately at a handsome profit. British manufacturers at home could not keep pace with the demand and large orders for iron and steel goods and motor-cars were placed with American and Japanese firms. Demand seemed inexhaustible. But in June the tide began to turn. General depression followed upon financial stringency and deepened to stagnation at the close of the year. Unstable political conditions in Europe still kept closed some of the chief markets, and enormously increased costs of production together with largely diminished purchasing powers slowly but surely emphasised the necessary virtue of economy. Fantastic as the visions of February, 1920, may now appear, the disillusionment of October was none the less profound. The contrast is tropical in its intensity. Six months of unrestrained optimism were followed by six of growing and intense depression, but the sombre colouring of the second is no truer indication than the unnatural brilliance of the first.

The problem is simple but world-wide. The will to create a new Heaven and a new Earth can only take effect through a medium of hard times and hard work. It is easy to point the moral and it were idle to adorn the tale with local illustration.

The part of this Colony is perforce that of a deeply interested spectator. The raw materials of the country, the tin and rubber and copra, await the certainty of industrial recovery in Europe and it is for us to conserve our resources in confident expectation and to be ready to rise on the flood-tide of a world revival.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

The total revenue amounted to \$26,747.81, not counting Opium and Liquor revenue and Income Tax which are collected in Singapore.

Export of Phosphate of Lime increased slightly from 68,621 tons in 1919 to 69,575 tons, and tonnage entered and cleared at Flying Fish Cove increased from 81,197 tons in 1919 to 90,150 tons.

Australia and Japan consumed the entire stock of export, Japan taking only 57 per cent as against 71 per cent in 1919.

In regard to the tonnage of freight ships 37 per cent flew the British Flag and 63 per cent the Japanese.

The population increased from 617 on 1st January to 698 on 31st December.

There was no serious crime.

In January a special Commissioner visited the Island to enquire into and report on the riot and attempted arson of December, 1919, and to deal with the charges arising out of the same, and the police reinforcements from Singapore were returned early in 1920.

LABUAN.

The revenue collected in Labuan amounted to \$46,326.15, and \$104,861.25 was expended. The total volume of trade was \$4,872,540, and exports and imports show little variation from the previous year. 134,872 tons of merchant shipping entered and cleared. A weekly service with Singapore and Borneo was maintained. A Company styled "The Labuan Exploration Company" has been formed in London with the object of prospecting minerals in Labuan, and a geological survey has been completed.

THE SHIPPING COMMITTEE.

The Food Controller as Chairman of the Shipping Committee dealt with such matters as arose.

The s.s. *Ranee* continued to be run by the Straits Steamship Company, Limited, on behalf of the Government, the Government in turn accounting to the Imperial Government on certain terms as regards hire. The vessel latterly was run at a loss and was laid up on October 18th.

The s.s. *Will o' the Wisp* was still retained by the Government and run on its behalf by the Straits Steamship Company, Limited. This vessel also was laid up in December, 1920. The settlement with the owners is not yet completed.

BANKRUPTCY.

There were 25 trade bankruptcies, 15 in Singapore, 2 in Malacca and 8 in Penang, with total estimated liabilities of \$3,369,964 (Penang \$50,730 only and Malacca \$7,004 only). One Singapore rubber failure accounts for \$2,581,054 and two other Singapore bankruptcies for \$387,537.

HIGH COST OF LIVING.

In the towns acute housing shortage and the general high cost of living everywhere pressed hard on all classes of the population.

BUILDINGS.

Progress was made with the plans for new Post Office buildings and a new General Hospital in Singapore.

INCOME TAX.

The amount of tax assessed for the year under the Income Tax Ordinance, 1920, was about \$6,150,000 and the amount collected about \$6,000,000.

This shows an advance of over \$1,000,000 upon the 1919 results of the War Tax Ordinance, 1919, which was for all practical purposes identical in scope with the Income Tax Ordinance, 1920.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year 1920 amounted to \$42,469,620 exceeding the estimate by \$24,011,033, whilst the expenditure was \$39,260,318, being \$18,614,483 more than the estimate.

The revenue figure creates a new record, exceeding the 1919 figure by \$8,361,155, and when it is remembered that the figure for 1919 included a transfer entry of \$4,149,750 arising out of the sale of the Singapore Railway and Railway Stores in 1913, the actual increase in 1920, as compared with 1919, may be put at over 12½ million dollars.

The actual figures for 1919 and 1920 are as follows:—

A.—REVENUE.

	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Port, Harbour, Wharf and Light Dues ...	1,506	1,610	104	...
2. Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ...	22,302,119	34,211,116	11,908,997	...
3. Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid ...	736,701	880,844	144,143	...
4. Posts and Telegraphs ...	1,094,083	1,241,071	146,988	...
5. Rents on Govt. Property	1,240,762	1,232,813	...	7,949
6. Interest ...	1,374,153	975,196	...	398,957
7. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,845,879	1,812,970	...	1,032,909
	\$29,595,203	40,355,620	12,200,232	1,439,815
8. Land Sales...	4,513,262	2,114,000	...	2,399,262
TOTAL ...	\$34,108,465	42,469,620	12,200,232	3,839,077
		Net Increase ...	\$8,361,155	

The main increases include \$4,951,192 under Income Tax Collections, a new Item of Revenue, \$295,146 under liquors and \$118,193 under tobacco.

Stamp duties increased by \$225,805, but Estate duty fell from \$740,402 in 1919 to \$719,605 in 1920.

The revenue from Posts and Telegraphs shows an increase of \$146,988.

Interest on Bank accounts shows an increase of \$16,177, on loans an increase of \$53,698 and on opium purchase money outstanding \$40,875 making a total increase of \$110,750. On the other hand interest on investments fell from \$885,663 in 1919 to \$376,707 in 1920, being a fall of \$508,956. There were other decreases of \$751 making a total decrease of \$509,707 or a net decrease over all interest items of \$398,957. The loss of interest on investments was mainly due to the necessity of applying the Colony's funds in financing Food Control, all fixed deposits with Banks had to be realised.

Profits on exchange amounted to \$1,424,531; this was due to the high value of the rupee in the early part of the year. Profits on money order rates amounted to \$9,330 only as compared with \$81,027 in 1919.

B.—EXPENDITURE.

	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charge on account of the Public Debt ...	37,083	37,083	...	...
2. Pensions ...	630,636	679,920	49,284	...
3. Charitable Allowances ...	11,156	14,483	3,327	...
4. The Governor ...	82,919	171,445	88,526	...
5. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillor and Residents ...	202,150	371,123	168,973	...
6. Government Printing Office ...	99,043	278,666	179,623	...
7. Land and District Offices	248,549	344,605	96,056	...
8. Forests ...	33,498	34,628	1,130	...
9. Chinese and Indian Immigrants' Protection	84,232	109,819	25,587	...
10. Treasury ...	123,348	211,719	88,371	...
11. Audit ...	46,742	75,243	28,501	...
12. Director of External Audit ...	...	4,912	4,912	...
13. Marine ...	455,215	612,715	157,500	...
14. Legal ...	386,339	486,977	100,638	...
15. Police ...	1,122,669	1,408,922	286,253	...
16. Prisons ...	330,380	464,383	134,003	...
17. Medical ...	286,319	465,380	179,061	...
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries ...	784,922	1,085,784	300,862	...
19. Veterinary ...	29,932	49,475	19,543	...
20. Education ...	385,478	562,086	176,608	...
21. Ecclesiastical ...	21,510	23,340	1,830	...
22. Transport ...	78,634	211,162	132,528	...
23. Military Expenditure ...	4,369,680	3,171,065	...	1,198,615
24. Miscellaneous Services ...	20,590,584	23,501,948	2,911,364	...
25. Post Office ...	678,006	881,517	203,511	...
26. Government Monopolies	484,808	590,825	106,017	...
27. Agricultural Department	1,338	8,550	7,212	...
28. Botanical Gardens ...	63,871	73,911	10,040	...
29. Raffles Museum and Library ...	16,574	35,946	19,372	...
30. Public Works Department ...	368,154	354,808	...	13,346
31. Survey Department ...	...	187,066	187,066	...
32. Public Works, Recurrent	488,493	576,148	87,655	...
33. Public Works, Extraordinary ...	892,571	1,465,890	573,319	...
War Expenditure ...	1,466,400	708,774	...	757,626
TOTAL ...	\$34,901,233	39,260,318	6,328,672	1,969,587
Net Increase	...	...	\$4,359,085	...

The expenditure on Personal Emoluments was \$8,796,587 as compared with \$4,685,159 in 1919. This advance was due to revisions of the salaries of Government Servants, and to the fact that arrears of 1919 salaries arising out of those revisions were paid in 1920.

Military expenditure shows a decrease of \$1,198,615. This is due to the fact that no arrears of Defence Contribution for 1919 were paid.

The amount expended on salaries of acting officers amounted to \$208,873.73 as compared with \$126,083.78 in 1919. This increase may be attributed partly to the improved facilities for granting officers leave, and partly to revisions of salary.

Exclusive of Defence Contribution and of Special Expenditure connected with the war, the following table will show the Colony's expenditure for the last seven years and the portion of it which has gone in Public Works Extraordinary:—

	<i>Total Expenditure.</i>	<i>Public Works Extraordinary.</i>
	\$	\$
1914 ...	7,746,594	926,077
1915 ...	7,207,478	676,463
1916 ...	6,514,527	318,788
1917 ...	6,774,048	208,908
1918 ...	8,687,204	458,257
1919 ...	29,111,433	892,571
1920 ...	35,452,052	1,465,890

Of the large figure of expenditure for 1920, which represents an increase of nearly 27 millions over 1918 and of 6 millions over 1919, Miscellaneous Services accounted for \$23,501,948 which is an increase of roughly \$20,000,000 on the 1918 figure. This may be almost entirely explained by the following items, which may be classed as abnormal expenditure:—

	\$	c.
Loss on Rice	9,460,200.42	
Food Control Administration Expenses ...	220,356.04	
Contribution to Imperial War Funds ...	7,186,222.28	
Immediate and Temporary Allowances ...	2,633,567.38	
Total ...	\$19,500,346.12	

other large, and in some respects exceptional, items of expenditure are:—

		\$	c.
Johore Causeway	...	215,599	64
Purchase of Land	...	1,093,804	00
Public Works Extraordinary		1,465,890	00

The expenditure of the various Government departments has increased in every case but the Public Works Department, the most noticeable increases being Police \$286,253, Hospitals and Dispensaries \$300,862, Post Office \$203,511, Government Printing Office \$179,623, Medical \$179,061, Education \$176,608, Colonial Secretary \$168,973, Marine \$157,500.

MILITARY AND WAR EXPENDITURE.

The figure of \$708,744 entered as war expenditure does not represent expenditure actually incurred in 1920, but expenditure incurred between the 1st July, 1918 and the 31st December, 1919, which had been charged to suspense account, and which was eventually adjusted by a vote taken in 1920.

The expenditure on Volunteers, Reserve Force and Civil Guard, in 1920 amounted to \$72,821.91 and several small items of expenditure arising out of the war totalled \$27,132.48. This expenditure has all been included under the heading "Miscellaneous Services".

Defence Contribution for 1920 was included in the sum of £1,000,000 paid to the Imperial Government in that year.

Among excesses of Revenue over the Estimates were:—

Interest \$257,275, Premia on Grants \$236,676, Stamp duties \$1,284,875, Premia on Special Sales of Town Lands \$1,753,373, Postage Stamps \$202,671, Land Rents \$112,680 and Miscellaneous Receipts \$1,745,700.

The principal savings on the Expenditure Estimates were in respect of Public Works Extraordinary \$1,387,849, Post Office \$139,162 and Military Expenditure \$107,073. Overpayments recovered showed a sum of \$111,637 not estimated for.

The following comparative statement shows the revenue and the expenditure of the Colony for the past seven years :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
		—	—
		\$	\$
1914	...	14,016,882	10,180,189
1915	...	14,131,691	10,196,560
1916	...	17,325,695	11,046,353
1917	...	19,672,104	11,369,392
1918	...	23,262,015	15,966,145
1919	...	34,108,465	34,901,233
1920	...	42,469,620	39,260,318

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1920, were as follows :—

<i>Liabilities.</i>			<i>Assets.</i>		
—			—		
		\$			\$
Deposits	...	16,052,071	Indian Agency Account	...	817,103
			Foodstuff Agency Account	...	3,375,857
			Investments	...	10,251,117
			Advances	...	3,013,702
Suspense (Currency Commissioners)	...	5,140,644	Loans :—		
			Municipalities	...	3,396,645
Drafts and Remittances	...	487,090	Kelantan Government	...	120,000
Federated Malay States and Johore Foodstuff Account	...	17,133,903	Singapore Harbour Board	...	3,637,124
Cash in transit	...	14,574	Penang Harbour Board	...	587,518
			Ho Hong Steamship Co.	...	300,000
Excess of Assets over * Liabilities	...	44,876,032	Imprests	...	54,131
			Suspense (a)	...	44,335,543
			Cash	...	13,815,574
TOTAL	...	\$83,704,314	TOTAL	...	\$83,704,314

The excess of the assets over the liabilities increased during the year by \$3,209,302.

* The Cash in Treasuries and Banks amounted to \$18,008,534. The readily realisable investments were worth at market prices of 31st December, 1920, \$9,221,785,—a total of \$27,230,319 giving, after provision of \$21,192,715 to meet deposits and suspense account, an available cash balance of \$6,037,604.

(a) Includes Suspense Account Foodstuffs \$44,151,402.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the loan raised by the issue of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provisions of Ordinance IV of 1907 amounted, on the 31st December, 1920, to £6,913,352, of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

The expenditure upon service in respect of which this loan was raised stands as follows:—

	\$
Singapore Harbour Board ...	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board ...	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore ...	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang ...	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	320,137
Total ...	<u>\$55,869,097</u>
Loan Expenses and Cost of Conversion (1907 Loan) less interest received ...	3,388,205
Total ...	<u>\$59,257,302</u>

The charge on account of interest on and expenses of this loan was \$2,082,358 in 1920. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and the other bodies to whom portions of the loan have been allotted.

The indebtedness of the Colony under the $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent War Loan 1918 stands at \$28,655,700 and under the $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent Conversion Loan 1919 at \$36,671,900.

The Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Victory Loan was floated on the 20th January, 1920 and closed on the 31st August, 1920. Subscriptions amounted to \$15,074,300. The bonds are bearer bonds at 5 per cent per annum redeemable at par on the 1st September, 1934.

EXCHANGE.

The demand rate (Bank opening rates only) ranged during the year between $2\ 4\ \frac{3}{4}$ and $2/3\ \frac{3}{4}$.

CURRENCY.

Excluding subsidiary coins, the Currency of the Colony in circulation in the Currency Area at the end of the year consisted of \$101,587,186.80 in currency notes and \$6,483,003 in dollars and half-dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of \$153,209.

At the beginning of the year 1920, the Currency notes in circulation amounted in value to \$174,631,973.70. The demand for Currency which had maintained throughout the 2nd half of 1919 continued, with little abatement, until the 4th March, 1920, and the record value of notes in Circulation was reached on that day, when it stood at \$183,212,221.80.

It is curious that within 11 days exchange so varied that the reverse process started and the Currency Commissioners were called upon to sell Sterling. With a very occasional swing back of the pendulum, this process continued until the end of the year, and the Currency Commissioners sold altogether Sterling to the amount of £11,515,000. The value of notes in circulation was reduced to \$101,587,186.80 by the end of the year 1920, but even this figure is more than double the pre-war figure of \$43,834,548.

The coin reserve held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to \$54,220,332.32 consisting of £328,251 in gold held locally and \$8,523,208.33 in silver partly in the Colony and partly held by the Mint Master, Bombay, for coinage purposes, and £5,004,130-2-8 in gold in London.

The investments held by the Commissioners on account of the Note Guarantee and Depreciation Funds were worth, at cash bargain or minimum prices, at the end of the year, \$43,731,892.30, the cost price of those investments being \$57,631,185.36.

The decrease in value compared with original cost is due to the general depreciation of all securities.

The Note Guarantee Fund at the end of the year was worth \$100,504,679.82 (Coin portion \$54,220,332.32. Investment portion \$43,731,892.30 and on deposit with the Government pending investment \$2,543,455.20), while the Gold Standard Reserve Fund at the same date was worth \$11,462,529.31. The total of the funds controlled by the Commissioners was, therefore, \$111,967,209.13, or \$10,380,022.33 more than the total note circulation at the end of the year.

New subsidiary coin of 400 fine to the extent of \$621,000 was received from the Bombay Mint during the year, thus completing the number ordered. This was put into circulation without delay, but the supply of silver was still insufficient and it was found necessary to increase the issue of ten-cent notes. The new issue of ten-cent notes was obtained from England, and, as was to be expected, proved to be a vast improvement on the locally printed notes. The new notes were gladly accepted by the public. Notes in circulation of a face value less than \$1 stood at the end of 1920 as follows:—

	\$	c.
10-cent notes printed in United Kingdom	1,565,000	00
10-cent notes printed locally ...	1,760,934	80
25-cent notes printed locally ...	38,900	00

The number of notes destroyed during the year totalled 4,118,343 against 3,199,912 in 1919, an increase of nearly one million. This is most satisfactory but the notes presented for cancellation were still in excess of the number destroyed.

Ten-cent notes accounted for 2,000,000 of the number destroyed.

At the beginning of the year the total number of notes awaiting destruction was 3,704,378, and further 5,612,546 were presented during the year, making a total of 9,316,924 for destruction. The total number destroyed was 4,118,343 as stated in the preceding paragraph, and the balance remaining for destruction at the end of the year was consequently 5,198,581.

ENEMY PROPERTY.

The balance to the credit of the Custodian of Enemy Property at the end of the year was \$13,385,245.53 of which \$13,205,176.38 was invested. In addition \$210,076 was specially invested for the separate accounts of certain Enemies and does not appear in either of the above figures.

FOOD CONTROL.

The position at the beginning of the year was such as to cause grave anxiety, owing to the low stocks of rice in the country. Owing to a disastrous drought in Siam, the export of rice from that country, which normally has an exportable surplus of 1,000,000 tons and supplies this country with about two-thirds of its requirements, was absolutely prohibited throughout the year 1920. The export of rice

from Burma was strictly controlled by the Government of India, and the price for export had been raised to Rs. 300 per ton, which was more than double the price at which Burma rice was obtainable in 1919. No assurance at that time could be obtained from the Government of India as to the quantity of rice that would be allotted to Malaya for the year 1920. Saigon therefore was the only available free market in which rice could be bought. Although the crops in Saigon were good, the unusual competition created by conditions in Siam and Burma forced up prices in Saigon to abnormal heights, difficulties being further increased by the very adverse rate of exchange.

Contracts were entered into between November, 1919, and April, 1920, for the purchase of 130,000 tons from Saigon, money being laid down there for that purpose. From November, 1919, to February, 1920, arrangements for purchase and shipping in Saigon were made by H. B. M. Consul, but later Mr. KNOX WILSON, of Messrs. Adamson, Gilfillan & Co., proceeded to Saigon and acted as Agent for the Government. Mr. KNOX WILSON remained from 1st March until 4th June, when he proceeded to Rangoon to act in a similar capacity regarding Government purchases of Burma rice.

The average price paid for the Saigon rice was 9.30 piastres per picul, which at the rate of exchange at which the money was laid down came to \$434.48 per ton, which with charges finally came to \$466.45 per ton or \$1.66 a gantang.

Burma Exports.—All rice bought from Burma had to be purchased through the Rice Commissioner at Rangoon at a fixed price of Rs. 300 per ton f.o.b.* The quantity allotted to Malaya was a matter for the Government of India to decide.

In January, 1920, the Straits Settlements Government was notified that 60,000 tons would be allotted to Malaya for 1st quarter of the year. In February, a further allotment of 36,000 for the whole year was made. Later in February, the year's allotment was increased to 114,000 tons, and in April the total was increased to 240,000 tons, subject to the whole quantity being purchased before the end of June.

An effort was made to obtain a reduction of price without success. Owing to the condition of purchase mentioned above, rupees were laid down in Rangoon at a time when exchange was adverse to this Government. The rice to be obtained from Burma was both white and parboiled, and to supplement the parboiled stocks, the Central Milling Agency, Penang,

* \$1.06 per gantang f.o.b.

were allowed to bring in 250,000 bags of padi from Saigon to be locally milled into parboiled rice, which Government undertook to purchase from them at 95 cents per gantang.

The brands of rice known as “puttoo” and “cargo broken”—both used for animal and poultry food—were obtained from Burma and not included in the 240,000 tons allotted to Malaya. Both kinds were imported on behalf of approved parties in Singapore and Penang, the price of “cargo broken” alone being controlled.

Applications have been made from time to time for permission to import parcels of rice of special qualities for private consumption, but it has been found necessary to refuse all such requests in order to avoid (a) inequality of treatment of consumers and (b) fraudulent practices, such as sifting, etc. In addition to the purchases of rice mentioned above, a contract for the purchase of 5,000 tons of white rice from Saigon was made in September, 1920, for delivery in February and March, 1921.

Towards the end of the year, the crop prospects in the rice-growing countries of Burma, Siam and Indo-China became very good, and as a first step towards Decontrol, purchases were made of 20,000 tons of white rice from Siam, 15,000 tons of white rice from Rangoon and 5,000 tons parboiled rice from Rangoon, all for delivery early in 1921.

The object of these purchases, which were made at about 50 cents per gantang c.i.f., was to arrange with the trade that they should take over all Government balances as on February, 1921, at an average price of old and new stocks and gradually resume the distribution and supply and generally to restore their trade. The Government policy was publicly explained to rice dealers in Singapore, Penang and Kuala Lumpur during December, 1920. A detailed account of the steps taken will more properly fall into next year's report.

Local Crops.—As little interference as possible has been exercised in respect of crops grown for the owner's consumption. Rice milled from local padi has been held at the disposal of the Food Controller and padi from certain districts could only be sold to certain mills. The price of padi is not fixed, but there is a Government guarantee of a minimum price of 13 cents a gantang for 5 years from May, 1919. Detailed arrangements for giving effect to this guarantee if and when it becomes necessary to do so have been submitted to Government by the Director of Food Production.

The mills were required to keep a record of the prices they paid for padi and the resultant rice for the season was taken over at a price of 80 cents per gantang.

Distribution of rice.—Rice on arrival in Penang was taken over by the Rice Distributing Agency, stored in godowns, white rice being issued to Wholesalers for distribution to the Federated Malay States and direct to Retailers for local consumption. Later, the Wholesalers' trade was cut out, rice being imported direct to Port Swettenham from Rangoon or shipped direct to Teluk Anson from Penang.

Parboiled rice was sent to estates direct, special arrangements being made with the Federated Malay States Railways for distribution by rail.

Rice on arrival in Singapore was stored in godowns, acquired from time to time, and thence issued to Wholesalers who supplied Wholesalers outside Singapore. Formerly, there were in Singapore some 1,300 or 1,400 Retailers, but the number was cut down to about 300. To supply the community formerly served by the numerous Retail shops, a series of Depôts were organised by a voluntary Committee of Chinese gentlemen known as The Rice Distribution Board and these Depôts were of invaluable service to the community and existed until February 15th, 1921. Special thanks are due to the members of the Board for their public-spirited action, as their labours were freely given and for the general good of the people.

Household rationing, although adopted in certain portions of the Federated Malay States, was not adopted in the Colony.

Stocks.—The stock held by Government and in sight at the end of the year amounted to 74,000 tons, the estimated monthly consumption during 1920 being about 27,000 tons.

Prices.—The average price of rice delivered in 1920 and bought during 1920 for delivery 1921 (excluding 40,000 tons bought in December, 1920, for delivery January, 1921, to restore the trade) is estimated to be \$1.29½ per gantang (1 gantang = 6 catties, 1 catty = 1½ lbs.).

The Controlled Retail price of rice to consumers in Singapore and Penang was on January 1st, 1920, 75 cents per gantang. On 22nd January it was raised to \$1 per gantang. On the 18th May it was again raised to \$1.26 per gantang. On the 13th September, the price was reduced to \$1 per gantang, at which price it remained until the end of the year. It was decided in view of the serious industrial position prevailing in the Peninsula to make a further reduction to 80 cents per gantang as from January 3rd, 1921. The reduction to this latter figure took effect from January 10th (Note.—A further reduction to 70 cents per gantang took place as from February 1st, rendered possible owing

to Government having bought 40,000 tons round about 50 cents per gantang as stated above). It is estimated that the loss to the three Governments of the Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States and Johore on 1st January, 1920, stood at about \$7,000,000. This was entirely accounted for by compensation to dealers for heavy stocks held in July, 1919.

A further loss of about \$12,500,000 was incurred between 1st January and 18th May. This loss was increased by about \$2,000,000 between the 18th May and the 13th September.

Had the remaining Government stocks, other than the 40,000 tons bought round about 50 cents per gantang been sold at \$1 per gantang, it is estimated that the total loss to the three Governments concerned would amount to \$39,000,000 when all Government stocks were exhausted. The effect of selling at 80 cents per gantang is estimated further to increase the loss to the three Governments by \$3,700,000, making a total estimated loss of \$42,700,000, of which the Colony bears $\frac{1}{3}$, i.e., \$16,012,500. Against this loss is to be set off the profit that will accrue on the sale of 5,000 tons parboiled purchased in the neighbourhood of 40 cents per gantang, and sold at considerably higher controlled rates, a purchase made with the object of enabling Government stocks of White and Parboiled rice to be finished simultaneously.

Other foodstuffs.—The price of Australian wheat flour was controlled until April, when control prices were removed, as it was found that flour from other sources could successfully compete with Australian flour. Export is still controlled, but export in limited quantities is allowed.

When the rice position in the early part of the year was precarious, 1,000 tons of Mealie from British East Africa and 1,000 tons from South Africa were obtained. There was a good demand at first, but this slackened as rice supplies became ensured and the balance had to be sold for what it would fetch.

The bulk of the milk imported is by one Company—the Nestles Company—and the price of their products has been controlled, and only limited export allowed. Other brands introduced by other firms are dearer than Nestles and cannot compete, and the price of such brands has not been controlled.

The price of Nestles Milkmaid Sweetened Condensed—the most largely used variety—was raised from \$22 per case in December, 1919, to \$24.65 per case in August.

It has not been possible to make any reduction in other foodstuffs, in view of an all-round increase in the world's prices and the rise in exchange, but steps are being taken

which it is hoped will have an appreciable and favourable effect in reducing price of local market commodities.

Mr. HOSE succeeded Mr. W. PEEL as Food Controller on 15th March, 1920, and was in turn succeeded by Mr. F. M. BADDELEY on October 1st, 1920.

IMMIGRATION.

(I).—CHINESE.

One hundred and twenty-six thousand and seventy-seven immigrants arrived from China, an increase of 77·7 per cent as compared with the figure for 1919 and a decrease of 53·2 per cent as compared with that for 1911 which showed the highest number yet recorded.

As compared with the average for the previous ten years, 1910 to 1919, the number arriving in 1920 shows a decrease of 25·3 per cent.

Adult males formed 66·5 per cent and adult females 17·7 per cent of the immigrants.

Despite unfavourable exchange rates which however improved during the year and the undoubted high cost of living in the Straits, immigration increased considerably as compared with 1919. This increase was helped by a gradual fall in the passage rates both from Amoy and Swatow and Hongkong to Singapore.

(II).—SOUTHERN INDIAN.

The total number of immigrants (deck passengers) arriving at Penang from Southern India during the year was 95,220 as compared with 101,433 in 1919.

The number of Indians leaving the Colony for Southern India was 55,481 as against 46,767 in 1919.

The figures for arrivals for the last four years are as follows:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Assisted immigrants* 78,407	55,583	88,021	78,855	
Other immigrants ... 11,670	9,708	13,412	16,365	
Total ... 90,077	65,291	101,433	95,220	

* "Assisted immigrants" are of two classes:—(i) the independent labourer who gets a free ticket from the Emigration Agent in India upon proof that he is a *bona fide* labourer, and who is free to work where he pleases; (ii) the Kangany labourer, who is recruited in India by a licensed Kangany, and who goes to a particular place of employment, though he is free, upon arrival there, to give a month's notice of his intention to leave. There is no indentured Tamil labour in the Colony.

The assisted immigrant consisted of 70,514 adults and 8,341 minors. Of the adults 56,296 were men and 14,218 women.

The health of estates in Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings was very satisfactory during the year, the death-rate in Province Wellesley being 15·92 per mille and in the Dindings 12·16 per mille. Among the 403 labourers employed on estates in Penang the death-rate was 4·96 per mille.

During 1920, 1,331 adult and 275 minor, decrepit and destitute Indians were assisted with a passage back to India.

The rate of assessment to the Tamil Immigration Fund was fixed at \$2.50 for the first quarter and \$6 for the three remaining quarters of the year 1920. The rate for the last quarter was subsequently reduced to \$3.

The Income of the Fund was \$5,872,283.48 and its expenditure \$4,701,087.03.

(III).—NETHERLANDS INDIAN.

The number of Netherlands Indian labourers on estates in the Colony is 2,545. No contracts under the Netherlands Indian Labourers' Protection Ordinance, 1908, are in force but approximately 511 local contracts for 300 days are in force in Province Wellesley.

CHINESE PROTECTORATE.

The Chinese Community has suffered severely from the slump as have other communities. Wages have fallen and at the end of the year there were signs of unemployment, notably in Malacca.

Political societies gave no real trouble.

. VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births and deaths registered during the year was 25,623 and 28,710, respectively.

The estimated population of the Colony was 864,858—the ascertained population in the last census year 1911 was 711,951. The crude birth-rate was 29·63 per 1,000 against 30·30 in 1919: the percentage of males born was 52, females 48.

The infantile mortality (deaths of children under one year) gives a ratio of 194·86 per thousand births against 212·42 in 1919.

The number of deaths from infantile convulsions, 3,557 (all under 2 years of age), shows the urgent necessity for training further native midwives: many of these deaths are due to tetanus of the new born, and are preventible by ordinary cleanliness.

There were 1,189 still-births, mostly due to syphilis. The death-rate, 33·20 per thousand, is a slight increase on the rate of 33·04 in 1919. The lowest death-rates in the last 10 years were 29·15 in 1915 and 30·70 in 1916: the decrease in mortality in those years was largely due to a wartime measure, and the repatriation of thousands of decrepit Chinese to their native land. The highest death-rates in the past 10 years were 46·46 per thousand in 1911, a very malarial year, and 43·85 in 1918 when the influenza epidemic struck the country.

The deaths from Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia (largely influenzal) this year are 4 times the number in 1915, while 362 deaths are directly registered as due to Influenza.

The Tamil is the most delicate, and the Chinese the hardiest of our Asiatic population. The Tamil suffers most severely from influenza and pneumonia, the Chinese least, while the Malay occupies an intermediate position. Deaths from these diseases are most numerous between 25 and 40 years of age, the most productive period of life.

Beri-beri accounted for only 1,025 deaths against 1,430 in 1919, and 1,958 in 1918. This marked decrease is coincident with the use of parboiled or undermilled rice, supplemented by other articles of diet, instead of the highly polished Siam rice.

Now that the latter is again freely obtainable the Beri-beri death-rate will doubtless rise.

It may be said with confidence that rationing has benefited the health of the native races.

The two diseases to which the greatest number of deaths are attributed are Malarial Fevers, 4,600 deaths, and Tuberculosis, 3,336 deaths.

Each year since 1917, though never before, the deaths from Tuberculosis have exceeded 3,000. The deaths from malarial fevers are about the average.

Dysentery caused 1,085 deaths and Diarrhoea 337 deaths.

Dangerous infectious diseases notified in the Colony have not played a large part in our mortality. There were 20 deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 55 from Plague, 33 from Cholera and 3 from Small-pox.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The rainfall recorded was as follows:—

1920.		
—		
Singapore	... ..	2340'75 m. m.
Labuan	... ..	3458'00 „
Penang	... ..	2584'00 „
Province Wellesley	... ..	2329'50 „
Malacca	... ..	2333'50 „
Dindings	... ..	1661'60 „

The mean temperature of the air throughout the year was 83'09. The maximum recorded was 95'0° in Penang on July 28th and 94'0 in Malacca on April 3rd. The minimum was 68'0 on 1st October and 27th November. The minimum in Singapore was 71'0 on 25th January, 16th February and 3rd August.

AGRICULTURE.

In the early part of 1920, the price of rubber was quite satisfactory and the industry appeared to be in a sound position. From the middle of the year onwards, however, there was a rapid fall in price due to restriction of credit universally and also to over-production such as had not been anticipated. The conditions in Central and Eastern Europe were such that there was no market in these countries, while the demand in Western Europe and America fell rapidly as a result of the restriction of credit. At the close of the year the price was such that it was insufficient to meet the cost of production in most cases and a condition of serious depression existed, which caused a reduction both of labour forces and of European supervision. Many estates have greatly restricted their output. Some have stopped tapping entirely. Many small owners have had to seek employment and leave their land to take care of itself, since they are unable to support themselves on the money realised by the sale of their rubber. In consequence the holdings have begun to be overgrown with bush and lalang grass, while the efforts of the Agricultural Department, commenced early in the year to encourage and, where necessary, to enforce better methods of cultivation and sanitation, have had recently to be suspended, as they were liable to cause undue hardship.

So far, fortunately, no serious diseases of rubber have been recorded apart from the prevalence of Pink Disease to some extent in Province Wellesley and the universal presence everywhere, as in the past few years, of Brown Bast.

The price of copra has been somewhat lower than in 1919, the average being about \$22 per pickul. The price paid to the growers for nuts has ranged between \$5 and \$10 per hundred. Early in the year the Agricultural Department's officers found that coconut beetles had become extremely prevalent, especially in Malacca. This condition is partly due, in Malacca, to the absence of any restriction on the felling of coconut trees with the result that large numbers have been felled for various reasons and have been allowed to form very effective breeding places for these insects. All through the year active measures have been taken with a view to suppressing these breeding places. Lectures have been given to landowners all over Malacca, while throughout the Colony very vigorous steps have been taken under the Agricultural Pests Ordinance to have all accumulations of coconut, or other suitable refuse where beetles breed, thoroughly destroyed or buried. It will, however, take some time before a satisfactory condition of sanitation is reached and the work will be continued. No other pests of coconuts were worthy of mention.

Vegetables were fairly plentiful on the Malacca market until the middle of the year, but were scarce during the end of the second quarter and the beginning of the third.

The first main fruit crop was a failure generally and in Province Wellesley the second crop was also light. In Malacca, however, the second crop was satisfactory and fruit was plentiful and reasonably cheap at the close of the year. There was a considerable importation of fruit into Province Wellesley from Perak during December since it was plentiful in that State as elsewhere throughout the Federated Malay States.

Rice.—The harvest obtained in Malacca early in 1920 was somewhat disappointing owing to the damage done by rats and other pests. On the other hand the crop coming to maturity at the end of the year was very promising in appearance and on the whole free from pests.

The area under padi in Province Wellesley and Malacca has again shown considerable increase and is believed to be higher in Malacca than it has been for many years. In Penang the area is about the same as in 1919-1920. The increase is due to the high price of rice. Although a considerable extension of the area planted with padi has resulted from

the efforts of administrative officers and others to increase the local production of rice in order to supplement the restricted supplies obtainable from other countries during the last 2½ years, yet it should not be assumed that this increase will be of a permanent nature unless the price of rice remains above the local cost of production.

The Acting Assistant Agricultural Inspector remarks that in Province Wellesley the light yielding short season varieties are grown, as the cultivators avoid the heavy yielding varieties on account of their longer maturation period. The short season varieties are also grown in Malacca as is the general rule in the southern part of the Peninsula.

There was an outbreak of army worms on the padi nurseries in parts of Malacca, but natural enemies and heavy rain combined with hand picking of the insects rapidly eradicated them and no permanent harm resulted. The Officers of the Agricultural Department have paid considerable attention during the year to the question of padi pests and it is hoped that when investigations are completed the control of several of these may be effected. The problem of reducing the damage caused by rats is very difficult, but it is hoped that some good may be done in time. Much depends on the vigorous and complete co-operation of the owners of the padi land if effective results are to be obtained, and educational measures will be necessary to achieve this.

Water Hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes).—This common water weed is to be found in considerable quantity in parts of Province Wellesley and Malacca. In some places it undoubtedly obstructs the flow of water to the padi fields and measures may have to be taken for its control.

It was not until the end of the year that a European Officer for the Straits Settlements Agricultural staff arrived in the country and he has had to obtain some knowledge of his duties before taking up his work in Malacca. During the year, therefore, the Assistant Agricultural Inspector, Negri Sembilan, has acted in Malacca and the Assistant Agricultural Inspector, Perak, acted in Province Wellesley on assuming his appointment in June.

The Department has made a good start with the work of training the necessary staff and also with the general work of improving agricultural methods in the Colony. This is in spite of the fact that the Department itself has been faced with a very serious shortage of officers especially in the Inspection Division, so that much credit is due to the officers who have performed the work in the Colony in addition to their already extensive duties in the Federated Malay States.

Statement showing combined Arrivals and Departures of Merchant Vessels for the Years 1919 and 1920.

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NATIONALITY.	1919.				1920.				Increase in 1920 as compared with 1919.	Decrease in 1920 as compared with 1919.			
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Christ-mas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.			Christ-mas Island and Labuan.	Total tonnage (Entered and Cleared).	
American	327,758	42,574	...	7,776	378,108	1,303,796	350,058	...	1,904	1,655,758	1,277,650	...	5,572
British	2,768	6,810	...	...	9,578	2,622	1,384	...	...	4,006	...	...	...
Chinese	6,516,855	2,934,575	467,588	142,102	10,081,120	7,940,852	4,601,655	453,550	143,268	13,139,325	3,058,205	...	46,203
Dutch	84,975	12,198	...	...	97,173	47,594	3,286	...	...	35,898	35,898	...	...
French	196,874	62,936	...	...	259,810	280,619	104,788	...	...	385,407	125,597	...	...
German	2,007,405	339,962	1,008	624	2,348,999	2,288,478	432,118	...	4,686	2,725,281	376,283	...	...
Indian	581,307	16,162	7,374	...	604,843	838,755	28,694	204	...	867,653	262,810	...	...
Japanese	11,872	...	...	...	11,872	11,484	...	...	...	11,484	11,484	...	...
Portuguese	47,854	...	...	...	47,854	166,296	147,302	...	...	13,934	2,062	...	...
Russian	178,374	...	...	...	178,374	78,334	...	...	...	313,598	265,744	...	100,040
United States	3,439,005	517,635	88,430	57,730	4,102,800	3,541,520	455,762	98,490	62,690	4,158,462	55,662	...	73,564
Other	163,112	20,156	...	...	183,268	89,364	20,340	...	...	109,704	15,068	...	...
Other	16,286	...	...	...	16,286	31,354	...	...	...	31,354	...	...	...
Other	88,742	4,170	...	...	92,912	55,508	...	...	...	55,508	...	...	37,404
Other	104,614	...	...	14,650	119,264	79,504	258	...	346	80,108	...	...	39,156
Other	230,872	21,682	...	...	252,554	193,837	4,190	...	12,128	210,155	...	...	42,399
Other	48,626	3,742	...	...	52,368	56,370	...	...	...	56,370	4,002	...	...
Other	41,476	6,524	...	...	48,000	44,692	...	...	...	44,692	...	...	3,308
TOTALS	14,088,775	4,009,126	564,400	222,882	18,885,183	17,100,811	6,149,835	552,244	225,022	24,027,912	...	...	5,142,729

In the last five years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows:—

In 1916	...	...	19,528,671 tons.
1917	...	...	15,784,369 „
1918	...	...	13,064,270 „
1919	...	...	18,885,183 „
1920	...	...	24,027,912 „

In the small craft (steamers under 50 tons and native vessels) the combined arrivals and departures were 62,395 in number and 2,576,161 in tons in 1920 as compared with 63,770 and 2,566,091, respectively, in 1919.

Seven new steam-launches and motor-vessels with a tonnage of 149 tons gross and 48 sailing-vessels of 5,120 tons were registered during the year under the Imperial Shipping Acts. Under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1910, 28 new sailing-vessels of 3,078 tons were licensed under section 425, and 560 vessels of 8,323 tons were registered under section 426.

TRADE.

The trade of the Colony in 1920, which was satisfactory for the first six months of that year, declined soon after the close of the half-year.

The following figures excluding Coin and Bullion show the value of the foreign trade of the Colony in thousands of pounds sterling for the last five years.

Merchandise—

		<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports Merchandise. Increase over the preceding year.</i>	<i>Exports Merchandise. Increase or decrease over the preceding year.</i>
		—	—	—	—
		£	£	£	£
1916	...	61,855	56,934	...	...
1917	...	73,987	72,307	12,132	+15,373
1918	...	81,618	71,922	7,631	— 385
1919	...	96,664	99,318	15,046	+ 27,396
1920	...	124,216	102,536	27,552	+ 3,218

The value of the inter-port trade, including treasure for the last five years, was as follows in thousands of pounds sterling:—

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports. Increase over the preceding year.</i>	<i>Exports. Increase over the preceding year.</i>
	—	—	—	—
	£	£	£	£
1916 ...	6,412	6,488	...	...
1917 ..	8,137	8,720	1,725	2,232
1918 ...	*9,183	*9,584	1,046	864
1919 ...	+13,164	+13,235	3,981	3,651
1920 ...	14,938	14,797	1,774	1,562

The aggregate trade for the year 1920 was therefore £226·7 millions, against £195·9 millions in 1919, an increase of £30·8 millions over 1919.

Bullion and Specie.—The figures for Bullion and Specie in thousands of pounds sterling for the year were:—

<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
—	—
£	£
23,975	16,936

Distributed according to classes the foreign trade records in thousands of pounds sterling are as follows:—

		<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
		<i>1919.</i>	<i>1920.</i>	<i>1919.</i>	<i>1920.</i>
		£	£	£	£
1. Live Animals, Foods, Drinks and Narcotics	...	34,901	43,579	26,659	28,141
2. Raw Materials	...	44,767	47,510	60,112	59,229
3. Manufactured and partly Manufactured Articles	...	16,996	33,127	12,547	15,166
TOTAL		96,664	124,216	99,318	102,536

The figures, except exports of "Raw Materials", exceeded those of the previous year.

The volume of Straits Produce shipped was in many cases less than in 1919.

* Excluding Coin and Bullion. † Coin and Bullion included for second half of 1919 only.

Articles of Straits Produce on the whole gave larger average prices than in 1919.

Tin.—The imports of tin and tin-ore were in 1920, 84,000 and 1,068,000 pikuls, respectively, as against 179,000 and 1,038,000 pikuls, respectively, in 1919 as shown below:—

	1919.		1920.	
	<i>Tin.</i>	<i>Tin Ore.</i>	<i>Tin.</i>	<i>Tin Ore.</i>
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>
Malay States ...	133,000	686,000	61,000	732,000
Netherlands Indies	38,000	113,000	1,000	146,000
Siam ...	6,000	207,000	5,000	143,000
Other Countries ...	2,000	32,000	17,000	47,000
Total ...	179,000	1,038,000	84,000	1,068,000

The exports of tin in 1919 and 1920 were as follows:—

	1919.		1920.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		\$		\$
United Kingdom	324,000	41,347,000	225,000	34,344,000
United States of America ...	454,000	59,928,000	472,000	73,095,000
Other Countries	219,000	27,445,000	131,000	20,325,000
Total ...	997,000	128,720,000	828,000	127,764,000

Para Rubber.—The imports of Para Rubber in 1919 and 1920 from the following countries were as follows:—

	1919.		1920.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		\$		\$
Malay States ...	1,412,000	132,093,000	1,305,000	120,454,000
Netherlands Indies...	456,000	37,089,000	373,000	30,009,000
Other Countries	79,000	6,623,000	80,000	7,398,000
Total ...	1,947,000	175,805,000	1,758,000	157,861,000

The exports of Para Rubber in 1919 and 1920 to the following countries were as follows:—

	1919.		1920.	
	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Pikuls.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
	—	—	—	—
		\$		\$
United Kingdom	406,000	44,088,000	406,000	40,507,000
United States of America ...	2,310,000	230,511,000	1,880,000	202,008,000
Other Countries	254,000	24,227,000	277,000	26,455,000
Total ...	2,970,000	298,826,000	2,563,000	268,970,000

It will thus be seen that there was a decrease in quantity of tin exported in 1920, and the value also decreased by nearly one million dollars.

As regards Para Rubber, both Imports and Exports showed large decreases in quantity and value as compared with the previous year. The value of imports decreased by nearly 18 million dollars and that of exports by over 29 million dollars.

IMPORTS.

In "Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics," increased values are seen under the sub-heads rice, fish, dry and salted, preserved fruits, bran, wheat flour, milk, brandy, oilman's stores, arecanuts, cigars and cigarettes and Benares opium, but sago flour, black pepper and sugar fell in values.

Under the heading "Raw Materials," enhanced values appear in tin-ore, coal, rattans, benzine, timber and kachang oil, while decreased import values are apparent in tin, Para rubber and Illipi nuts.

In the "Manufactured Class," cotton piece-goods, yarns, apparel, sarongs, slendangs and kains, silk piece-goods, machinery, ironware, motor-cars, motor-cycles and accessories, cement, rubber tyres and woodenware show increased values, but gunnies fell in value.

In quantities imported there were increases under coffee, bran, wheat flour, salt, cotton piece-goods, cement and benzine.

Declines in quantities are most noticeable in rice, Para rubber, sugar, ground-nuts and copra.

EXPORTS.

Exports of the following show increased values :—

“Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics”—

Coffee, fish, dry and salted, preserved pineapples, oilman's stores, arecanuts, chandu, bran, wheat flour, cigars and cigarettes and milk.

“Raw Materials”—

Copra, gum copal, gutta percha and rattans.

“Manufactured Class”—

Sarongs, slendangs and kains, yarns, motor-cars, motor-cycles and accessories and tanned hides, while decreases are apparent in—

“Foodstuffs, drinks and narcotics”—

Rice, sugar and black pepper.

“Raw Materials”—

Para rubber and Illipi nuts.

“Manufactured Class”—

Chemicals and gunnies.

The quantities of coffee, preserved pineapples, wheat flour, copra and rattans show an increase.

A decrease in volume is recorded of rice, beans and peas, sago, tapioca, Para rubber, pepper and tin.

TRADE BY COUNTRIES.

The following statement shows the position of the Colony in the years 1919 and 1920 as a market for British, European, American, Japanese and other foreign goods.

(The value of the trade in merchandise with the United Kingdom, Continent of Europe, United States of America, and Japan is shown in thousands of pounds sterling.)

		<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>	
		<i>1919.</i>	<i>1920.</i>	<i>1919.</i>	<i>1920.</i>
		£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	...	6,385	18,334	15,846	12,565
Belgium	...	9	328	414	585
Denmark	...	9	83	1,083	2,332
France	...	267	432	3,229	2,927
Germany	...	...	231	...	307
Holland	...	135	729	206	1,323
Italy	...	139	664	797	808
Norway	...	5	64	8	...
Sweden	...	6	94	25	1
Spain	...	19	31	35	63
United States of America	...	3,441	5,595	35,271	33,846
Japan	...	4,165	5,437	2,963	1,918

The articles which gave the largest increased values from the United Kingdom were hardware and ironware including cooking utensils, steel, paper and stationery, linseed oil, canvas, machinery including electrical goods, cotton piece-goods, apparel, hosiery and millinery, corrugated iron and cement.

From the United States of America increases in imports are seen in cigars and cigarettes, tinned provisions including fruits, milk, rubber tyres, paper and stationery, motor-cars and accessories and decreases in tools and implements and petroleum.

From Japan the following show advances in imports:—

Coal, cotton piece-goods, apparel, and hosiery, while matches, chemicals and fishmaws show declines.

Exports to the United Kingdom showed advances in such articles as preserved pineapples and gutta percha, but decreases took place in tin, sago, pepper, tapioca, Para rubber and copra.

In our Exports

to France—Tin, rattans and coffee,

to Italy—Tin, sago and Para rubber,

to Denmark—Copra.

all advanced, declines being seen in copra, Para rubber and coconut oil to France, copra and coconut oil to Italy, and coconut oil and coffee to Denmark.

The principal exports to Belgium were sago, copra, and Para rubber; to Holland copra, rattans, sago and Para rubber; to Spain copra and sago, and to Germany copra, rattans and Para rubber.

Exports to the United States advanced in values of tin, rattans and gum copal, but copra and Para rubber fell in values.

Exports to Japan showed increases in values of phosphate of lime, while declines are seen in Para rubber, tin and gunnies.

There was a rise in the total value of exports to Australia and New Zealand; Netherlands Indies, Malay States, French Indo-China, North Borneo and Sarawak, British India and Burma, but Siam and Siamese States and Hongkong and China showed decreases.

A Committee was appointed early in the year to inquire into the present system of the Registration of Imports and Exports in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States and to make proposals for the proper compilation and co-ordination of the statistics of British Malaya. The Committee met in Kuala Lumpur and a report was consequently drawn up and sent in to Government in November last.

FORESTS.

The area of reserved forests was increased by the addition of 155 acres to the Tanjong Burong Reserve in the Dindings. A further 754 acres were ready for final notification at the end of the year. The total area of reserved forests amounted to 106,168 acres, being 11 per cent of the aggregate area of all Settlements.

Revenue and expenditure were \$57,268 and \$42,849 respectively, compared with \$65,754 and \$34,064 in 1919, giving a surplus of \$14,419. There was an increase of revenue in Singapore due to the high prices obtained for the sale of the mangrove coupes. There were decreases in revenue in all other Settlements, that in Malacca amounting to \$5,899.54. As was pointed out in the report for 1919 the revenue for that year was abnormally high. The expenditure figures exclude temporary allowances but include arrears of pay due as a result of alterations in rates of salaries.

The outturn of timber was 10,837 tons and of fuel 27,358 tons.

One hundred thousand mangrove seedlings were planted in Sungei Acheh Forest Reserve in Province Wellesley. The only expenditure incurred was \$110 for the purchase of seed. Examination of the areas planted with bakau in former years in the Tanjong Burong Reserve shows that the planting has been successful. If the cost of this planting can be kept reasonably low it is likely to prove a useful silvicultural operation.

Forty-six breaches of the forest laws were reported, of which 23 were compounded and 23 taken into Court. In the latter cases the total amount of the fines was \$524, and of compensation for damages \$212. In the compounded cases compensation of \$625 was demanded of which \$65 was unpaid at the end of the year.

Toward the end of the year arrangements were being made, but were not completed, for the supervision of the forest work in Penang, Province Wellesley and the Dindings by senior officers of the Federated Malay States Forest Service. Forest operations have suffered much in the past for want of such supervision.

LAND.

The Revenue was thus distributed:—

—		Land Revenue.	Reimbursements.	Land Sales.	Total.
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore ...	(1919	256,449	12,109	152,944	421,502
	1920	247,794	19,028	1,792,913	2,059,735
Penang ...	(1919	195,632	19,498	9,106	224,236
	1920	214,057	21,194	21,424	256,675
Malacca ...	(1919	499,958	25,284	196,657	721,899
	1920	571,400	16,078	313,700	901,178
Labuan ...	(1919	2,692	524	36	3,252
	1920	4,037	4,266	1,027	9,330
Total...	(1919	954,731	57,415	358,743	1,370,889
	1920	—	—	—	—

PENANG.

—		Land Revenue.	Reimbursements.	Land Sales.	Total.
		\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
North-east District	...	49,573 89	5,437 45	9,260 00	64,271 34

Land Revenue increased by \$3,329 chiefly under the heading of Miscellaneous Receipts. There were seven applications for Crown Land. One was refused, one withdrawn, two are awaiting survey of Penang Hill and three are under consideration. Auction of Crown Land which had been suspended owing to restrictions on alienation was resumed during the year.

There were 47 applications for subdivisational surveys and 26 for re-surveys. Action on 27 was completed.

11,150 deeds were presented for registration as against 13,670 in 1919. There was a marked decrease in the latter part of the year owing to trade depression and tightness of the money market.

PROVINCE WELLESLEY.

Revenue collected in 1920 was as follows:—

			\$	c.
Land Revenue	...	...	83,480	87
Reimbursements	...	...	7,679	73
Land Sales	...	...	6,032	00

Land Rents increased by about \$1,900 over the figures of 1919.

172 acres, 3 roods and 10 poles of Crown Land were alienated during the year and the premium collected amounted to \$6,032.

The padi harvest was fairly good. A threatened failure was averted by the fall of rain two or three months after the usual planting time.

MALACCA.

Receipts on account of rents on Grants and Leases and assessment under the Malacca Lands Ordinance amounted to \$453,251 in 1919 as against \$412,931 in 1918. In 1920 \$538,420.

ALIENATION OF LAND.

The area of Crown Land alienated, and the number of Statutory Grants issued during the last five years together with the amount of premia paid in respect of the same, are shown in the following table:—

SINGAPORE.

	1916.			1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	1,442	0	39	2,034	3	10	599	0	03	392	3	25	340	3	34
• sq. ft.	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
„ Town Lots	40,220			61,182			237,980			204,130			131,908		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	63			87			79			83			88		
Premia paid ...	\$49,299			\$76,113			\$291,273			\$348,235			\$1,780,736		

PENANG.

	1916.			1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	1,576	2	39	636	1	10	472	0	19	16	1	32	556	3	00
sq. ft.	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
„ Town Lots	5,840			9,015			12,228			Nil.			Nil.		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	161			288			151			1			83		
Premia paid ...	\$19,906			\$8,022			\$4,109			\$2,457.50			\$15,422.00		

MALACCA.

	1916.			1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted...	4,581	2	20	7,113	2	28	8,721	0	12	4,214	0	08	1,919	2	38
	sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.			sq. ft.		
„ Town Lots	33,884			...			738			20,190			15,957		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	432 & 2			494			286			219			108		
	Mining Leases.														
Premia paid ...	\$82,975			\$143,267			\$172,622			\$77,207			\$50,170		

LABUAN.

	1916.			1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Area granted ...	667	2	28	185	2	12	...			...			1,403	1	26
„ Town Lots	0	2	26	0	2	13	0	4	10	17	1	17	...		
Number of Statutory Grants issued ...	93			62			39			73			290		
	(13 new Grants & 80 in exchange for old titles.)			(18 new Grants & 44 in exchange for old titles.)			(in exchange for old titles.)								
Premia paid ...	\$447			\$460			\$83			\$36			\$1,027.64		

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

The number of deeds presented for registration in Singapore was 6,714 as compared with 6,561 in 1919, and the number of deeds finally registered, 6,835, as against 5,915 in 1919. Conveyances and Assignments accounted for 3,282, Mortgages for 1,672, and Reconveyances for 1,302. Revenue amounted to \$26,967.95. The Registration of Deeds Ordinance, 1915, is not in force in the Settlement of Malacca.

REGISTRIES OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Last year was the fifth year during which the Companies Ordinance, 1915, was in force. Seventy-three new companies were registered with a capital of \$83,097,015; of these, 34 were private companies with a capital of \$19,707,140.

At the end of the year 345 companies remained on the register of which 30 were in liquidation. The total subscribed capital of the 335 companies which carry on a business was \$145,851,250.

Four hundred and forty companies not registered in the Colony, have filed documents under the 1915 Ordinance; of these, 342 are British, 20 are Japanese, 26 are Dutch and 23 are incorporated in the United States, America. Apart

from these, 13 companies of which 12 are British have complied with the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, and private Ordinances have been enacted in respect of five foreign companies. Fifty-seven companies do Fire Insurance business.

The total revenue of the department was \$36,632.31.

LIQUORS AND TOBACCO.

Liquors.—The revenue from liquors amounted to \$3,413,899.27 as against \$3,125,262.28 in 1919.

The system of distributing Toddy licences on the basis of tenders submitted in respect of individual shops introduced last year continued to work well and with satisfactory financial results. The revenue from Toddy in 1920 amounted to \$373,597.36, being \$100,064.58 more than in 1919.

Rules under the Liquors Revenue Ordinance were passed by resolution of the Legislative Council on the 23rd of January providing for the nature and origin of European liquors being clearly described on the labels of the receptacles in which they were offered for sale by retail.

Tobacco.—The total tobacco revenue collected in Singapore, Penang and Malacca during the year was \$1,668,663.42 as against \$1,550,135.86 in 1919.

The revenue from tobacco in the Settlement of Labuan was \$3,949.77 as against \$3,894.16 in the preceding year.

Prosecutions.—The total number of cases instituted by the Department during the year was 322 in Singapore, 127 in Penang and 56 in Malacca.

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The number of postal articles (excluding parcels) posted in the Colony was 13,917,430, an average of 16'09 per inhabitant, as against 15'58 the average in the previous year. The number received for delivery was 11,651,860, as compared with 9,355,950 in 1919. The number of messages forwarded over Government Telegraph lines during the year 1920 was 578,006 as compared with 497,843 in 1919 whilst the number received over the Government telegraph lines increased from 442,744 in 1919 to 488,931 in 1920. The number of subscribers to the Government telephone exchanges increased from 891 to 936.

The amount at the credit of depositors in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st December, 1920, was \$1,761,845.48, an increase of 18 per cent as compared with the amount on

December 31st, 1919. The average amount at the credit of each depositor was \$187.01. There was a profit on the year's working of \$31,340.58. The estimated present value of the investments is \$1,444,287.46.

Money Order and Postal Order transactions amounted in value to \$7,972,307, an increase of \$2,176,307.

In addition to the General Post Office, Singapore, and the Chief Post Offices at Penang, Malacca and Labuan, there are 33 Sub-Offices in the Colony, including the Railway Post Offices at Durian Tunggal (Malacca), Jarak, Kreh, Penanti, Pinang-Tunggal, and Simpang Ampat (Province Wellesley). Of these 21 are telegraph offices.

LEGISLATION.

The Ordinances passed during the year 1920 were 32 in number, including two Supply Ordinances. Seventeen of these are amending Ordinances.

2. The most important of the Ordinances which are not amending Ordinances are:—

(i) The Victory Loan Ordinance (No. 1) which authorises the Straits Settlements Government to raise a loan in order that such moneys may be lent to the Imperial Government.

(ii) The Income Tax Ordinance (No. 3) authorising the continuation of a tax on income on the same principles as those on which War Tax was levied during the continuance of the war. A total contribution to the Imperial Government of £1,000,000 in respect of the year 1920 was voted by the Legislative Council on the 19th day of December, 1919, and the principle that the proceeds of an income tax on lines similar to the former War Tax was also accepted by the Council.

(iii) The Clearing Office Ordinance (No. 18) which provides for the establishment of a Local Clearing Office in accordance with the Treaty of Peace Order in Council of 18th August, 1919.

(iv) The Registration of Schools Ordinance (No. 21) which provides for the registration of all schools (except British Military Schools) and of all teachers employed in them for the purpose of control.

3. The principal amending Ordinances are:—

(i) The Railway and Police Force (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 10) which provides that persons in the service of the Federated Malay States Railway Police when serving in the Colony shall have the same rights and be subject to the same obligations as members of the Police Force of the Colony.

(ii) The Labour Ordinance (No. 19) which consolidates the law relating to labour in the Colony. It is modelled on the Federated Malay States Labour Code, 1912, and makes the law more uniform as between the Colony and the Federated Malay States.

(iii) The Police Force Ordinance (No. 20) which consolidates the several Ordinances dealing with the constitution, powers, duties and discipline of the Police Force. It also provides for the creation of a Volunteer Police Reserve for service in each Settlement.

(iv) The Land Acquisition Ordinance, 1920 (No. 28) which consolidates and amends the existing law relating to the acquisition of land for public purposes and for Companies. The decision to recast the law arose out of the recommendation of the Singapore Housing Commission, and the law at present existing in India has been followed to a considerable extent.

(v) The Former Enemy Aliens Admission (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 30) which empowers the issue of temporary permits to former enemy aliens whose passports have been visaed by British Authorities in Europe, and amends the definition of "Former Enemy Alien" in accordance with instructions from the Secretary of State.

EDUCATION.

The expenditure on the nine Government English schools was \$352,424.16, on the 43 aided schools (English, Anglo-Tamil, Malay, Tamil and Chinese) \$709,913.14 and on the 193 Government vernacular schools \$220,236.02.

The Malacca Training College for Malay Teachers continued to do good work. Its cost, during the year under review, was \$28,110.27.

The numbers in Secondary Classes show a decrease of 7 over the figures for 1919. The Normal Classes continued their work during the year, and 29 Normal Class Certificates were issued.

The Department was still very short-handed. One master retired, while on furlough, on account of ill-health. 5 new masters and 3 new mistresses had arrived before the end of the year.

The Committee appointed to make recommendations as to what permanent form of educational memorial should mark the Centenary of Singapore sent in its report in due course. The proposal is to found an institution for higher education to be known as Raffles College, and to reorganise the work and curriculum of the schools. The Government of the Straits Settlements has promised a donation of \$1,000,000 towards building the College, and has undertaken to contribute \$50,000 annually towards its maintenance. Generous help has been promised by the Governments of the Federated Malay States and Johore, and handsome subscriptions have been received from merchants and others.

To ensure the success of the College it is necessary, as recommended by the Committee, to raise the present level of the schools. For this, Training for Teachers is required, and a sufficient and competent European staff.

The present schools are crowded and steps are being taken to provide new schools.

Approval has been given for two new appointments:— (1) a Chief Inspector of English Schools, who will supervise the work of all Secondary Classes in the Colony and the Federated Malay States and (2) an Inspectress of Schools, who will be in charge of the Elementary work of the Girls' Schools.

Progress was made with the preparation of the new series of modern Malay text-books for the Malay Vernacular schools. An advanced Teachers' Arithmetic, four new Readers and a Guide to Malay Letter-Writing were printed during the year; and a Physical Geography and a Malay Dictionary for Malays were nearly completed for the press.

Further progress was made with Basketry, and it is now taught by many Trained Teachers in the Malay village schools.

A Lady Supervisor for Malay Girls' Schools arrived towards the end of the year.

The building of a Central Training College for the Malay Teachers of the Colony and the Federated Malay States was commenced in Perak. As soon as it is erected and staffed, elementary botany and agriculture will be taught in all Malay village schools.

RAFFLES MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

With the retirement in 1919 of Dr. HANITSCH, Director of the Raffles Museum and Library for 24 years, an important chapter in the history of the Department was brought to a close. The arrival of his successor and a trained Librarian in May, 1920, resulted in a certain amount of reorganisation work which occupied the greater part of the year.

Accessions to the Museum were up to the average of former years. The most important was a collection of natural history specimens obtained in Borneo by the Director and Museum Collectors from September to November. Over 400 bird-skins were obtained, representing some 160 different species. Among the mammals obtained, two (a Badger and Squirrel) have been described as new to science. Useful collections of Reptiles, Invertebrates and Ethnological specimens were also made. These had not been worked out by the end of the year. Among the Miscellaneous Accessions during the year was a German Trench Mortar, deposited in the Museum by the Colonial Government.

The public interest in the Museum and Library appeared to be well-maintained. Although no regular count of visitors is kept, a count was taken at the door for one week in each of the last six months of the year. From figures thus obtained it is estimated that about 250,000 visited the Museum and Library during the year, of whom 170,000 entered the Museum only.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure of the Department was as follows :—

	<i>Singapore.</i>		<i>Penang.</i>		<i>Malacca.</i>		<i>Labuan.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	
	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
ESTABLISHMENTS.										
(1) Salaries ...	124,969.09	105,380.60			43,397.53	6,872.00			280,619.22	
(2) Other Charges	24,254.72	18,092.66			10,437.84	1,247.08			54,032.30	
ANNUALLY RE-CURRENT.										
(1) Roads, etc. ...	161,403.45	358,787.01			222,395.19	4,162.39			746,748.04	
(2) Buildings, etc.	268,973.81	182,524.19			81,358.59	4,236.76			537,093.35	
SPECIAL SERVICES.										
(1) Roads, etc. ...	35,241.38	300,057.59			683,428.98	1,999.00			1,020,726.95	
(2) Buildings, etc.	1,051,136.62	256,604.04			191,569.06	7,814.09			1,507,123.81	
Miscellaneous Services	114,167.33	67,825.43			6,324.67	1,420.13			189,737.56	
Total ...	\$1,780,146.40	1,289,271.52			1,238,911.86	27,751.45			4,336,081.23	

No new public buildings of importance were completed during the year but extensive Anti-Malarial Works at the Dindings were carried out.

ROADS.

In Singapore.—Nearly five-and-half miles of roads were converted from laterite to granite and seven miles of asphalted surface applied to granite and other metalled roads.

In Penang.—Three miles of road were re-metalled and tarred.

In Province Wellesley.—Progress was made with the earthwork of the new road connecting the South of the Province with Kedah frontier.

In Malacca.—Nine miles of road were reconstructed.

The metalled roads in the Colony are as follows:—

Singapore	...	...	96·26 miles.
Penang and Dindings	...	...	70·55 „
Province Wellesley	...	...	167·00 „
Malacca	...	...	249·50 „
Labuan	...	...	4·50 „
			<hr/>
			587·81

The Department has also charge of 49·13 miles of gravelled roads in Penang and Malacca and 97·44 miles of natural roads of which the greater part lies in Province Wellesley, Dindings, Malacca and Labuan. Main roads in the Colony will be found marked on the Map.

RURAL BOARDS.

The following return shows the revenue and expenditure of the Rural Boards, which carry out in areas outside Municipal limits such of the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance as are applicable to country districts:—

		Revenue.	Expenditure.
		—	—
		\$ c.	\$ c.
Singapore Island	...	* 201,156 00	249,219 00
Penang Island	...	77,009 00	156,510 00
Province Wellesley	...	360,123 00	504,297 00
Dindings	...	36,233 00	56,633 00
Malacca	...	608,663 00	897,176 00

The deficit in the revenue of the Rural Boards is made good by contributions from the Government.

* Exclusive of Education Rate but inclusive of dog tax collected by Police, and bank interest.

POLICE.

The total strength of the Force at the end of the year was 2714 distributed as follows:—

Singapore and Christmas Island	...	1,212
Penang, Province Wellesley and Dindings		1,014
Malacca	... ..	401
Labuan and Brunei	... ..	87
The authorised strength of the Force was		2,960

All appointments for Europeans were filled at the end of the year, except two in the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police. The Probationary Assistant Superintendents of Police appointed and Probationary Inspectors enrolled had all served in His Majesty's Forces and all promise well. Recruiting for the Malay, Indian and Chinese Contingents was not satisfactory (though an improvement took place towards the end of the year), and for the Sikh Contingent was entirely at a standstill. The Subadar was sent to India in April on a recruiting campaign, but achieved very little success.

Gambling was not noticeably prevalent in Singapore during the year; it was active in Penang, more particularly amongst women, and in Province Wellesley, though very good work was done by the Gambling Suppression Branch; there was comparatively little gambling in Malacca, especially towards the end of the year.

The cost of the Department was \$1,304,773.47.

The returns of the more serious offences reported are:—

	1919.	1920.
	—	—
Murder	31	46
Gang robbery	31	67
Robbery	131	127
House-breaking	423	529
Theft	2,325	2,854

The total number of cases in which arrests were effected with or without warrant in the Colony during the year was 22,509, compared with 17,735 in 1919. 145 cases were sent for trial before the Supreme Court as against 171 in 1919.

PRISONS.

Criminal Prisons.—At the beginning of the year there were 867 prisoners in the three Criminal Prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang and Malacca); 3,847 were admitted and 3,879 discharged during the year; and 835 remained at the end of the year.

There were only 35 prisoners of the “habitual” class in prison at the end of the year.

Prison offences showed an average of '9 per annum per convict as against 1 in the preceding year.

The number of “Middle-Grade” convicts—the men available for industrial labour was 163 in 1920, 143 in 1919, and 134 in 1918. The “Upper-Grade” men (59 in number) are mostly employed as cooks, orderlies, clerks, etc., the “Lower-Grade” men at stone-breaking and the “Short Sentence” and “Revenue Grade” men at stone-breaking, husk-beating and fatigue-duties.

There were three executions (two in Singapore, one in Penang and none in Malacca), in pursuance of sentences of the Supreme Court.

Civil Prisons.—There were 156 occupants of the Civil Prisons of the Colony at the beginning of the year: 6,136 were admitted and 6,146 discharged during the year; and there remained 146 at its end.

Houses of Detention.—In these buildings, which are part of the Civil Prisons, there were 56 vagrants at the beginning of the year and 93 at the close of the year: 677 were admitted and 633 discharged. Of this last number 47 found employment and 523 were repatriated.

General.—The sanitary condition of the Prison and the health of the prisoners have been satisfactory. The water carriage system for the removal of night-soil, etc., has been extended to the Workyards and is a great improvement.

The Prison was free from Beri-beri, Scurvy and Enteric Fever.

There was a marked decrease in the number of cases of Dysentery treated.

There were only 10 cases with 2 deaths, against 28 and 9 in 1919.

Five hundred and twenty-nine (529) prisoners were admitted to Hospital and the average daily sick was 24.

No European and Eurasian prisoners were admitted. 393 were criminal prisoners. 30 from Civil Prison and 106 vagrants.

There were 25 deaths in Hospital—13 occurred amongst Long Sentence prisoners, 5 Short Sentence, 2 Revenue Grade, 3 Vagrants and 2 Civil.

The total expenditure of the department was \$489,126.24, and its revenue \$27,493.23 besides which articles to the value of \$4,000.42 were supplied to Government departments.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

In Singapore the total imports of live-stock were 859 horses, 36,219 cattle, 25,964 sheep, 5,388 goats, 104,988 swine, 432 dogs and 683 buffaloes as compared with 774 horses, 31,721 cattle, 27,122 sheep, 6,111 goats, 130,911 swine, 227 dogs and 821 buffaloes in 1919.

The total number of live-stock exported from Singapore was 701 horses, 5,936 cattle, 6,854 sheep, 1,542 goats, 30,946 swine, 257 dogs and 104 buffaloes as compared with 541 horses, 4,551 cattle, 6,317 sheep, 2,387 goats, 65,784 swine, 216 dogs and 201 buffaloes in 1919.

The total Revenue collected during 1920 amounted to \$29,943.40 as compared with \$35,242.85 in 1919.

The health of animals in Singapore was generally good.

Cases of rinderpest occurred from time to time amongst cattle imported from Siam, but no epidemic occurred.

The importation of cattle from Monthon Patani, Siam, was prohibited in November on account of rinderpest.

At the end of the year an outbreak of rinderpest, introduced from India, occurred amongst milking buffaloes and the infected animals were removed to the Quarantine Station. The outbreak has so far been confined to one stable.

There was no case of glanders or anthrax during the year.

MUNICIPALITIES.

The revenue of the three Municipalities amounted to (\$9,537,414), and their expenditure, excluding sums spent on Loan Works, to (\$9,829,080). The usual comparative statements of revenue and expenditure appear below.

REVENUE.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore ...	3,884,353	4,375,493	4,943,059	5,640,304	6,862,574
Penang ...	1,429,251	1,537,937	1,592,449	1,716,350	2,404,398
Malacca ...	177,742	210,149	226,862	242,185	270,442

EXPENDITURE.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Singapore ...	3,743,261	4,244,657	5,034,593	5,904,808	7,071,546
Penang ...	1,268,865	1,380,139	1,577,409	1,870,282	2,466,382
Malacca ...	160,655	185,682	259,283	264,562	291,152

SINGAPORE HARBOUR BOARD.

The income and expenditure of the Board at Singapore (first as the Tanjong Pagar Dock Board and latterly as the Singapore Harbour Board) for the seven-and-half years 1913—30th June, 1920, have been as follows:—

	<i>Income.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	\$	\$
1913 ...	6,091,296	4,070,912
1914 ...	5,834,893	3,875,738
1915 ...	5,432,425	3,421,271
1916 ...	6,785,372	4,203,355
1917 ...	7,931,597	4,665,596
1918 ...	9,617,718	5,444,410
1919 (half-year to 30th June only)* ...	5,529,415	3,208,130
1920 (year ending 30th June, 1920)	20,754,623	11,079,039

The capital debt due to Government stood at 30th June, 1920, at \$51,548,956 on which the Board pays interest at 4 per cent. In addition to this capital, the Board has expended on new works and other expenditure of a permanent nature a sum of \$2,852,294 from reserve accounts.

* The preparation of interim Half-yearly Accounts to 31st December having now been discontinued in favour of Yearly Accounts to 30th June, yearly figures to December as heretofore can no longer be given.

The following figures are taken from the wharf tonnage returns:—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Number of Vessels ...	2,544	2,364	2,329	2,400	2,114	2,416	2,497
Nett Tonnage ...	5,445,273	4,307,082	4,348,927	3,938,659	3,330,791	4,530,834	5,244,274
Coal (Inwards and Outwards)	1,248,032	1,021,452	1,067,824	1,039,202	732,231	847,691	907,554
Cargo (Inwards and Outwards)	1,229,205	1,323,637	1,339,129	1,369,606	1,213,730	1,324,116	1,642,264

The tonnage occupying the Graving Docks during the years 1918, 1919, and 1920 based on the daily tonnage in dock was:—

	1918.	1919.	1920.
No. 1 Dock ...	233,023	369,339	467,796
No. 2 Dock ...	216,211	505,270	799,425
The Victoria Dock ...	253,074	987,000	600,127
The Albert Dock ...	407,319	895,870	813,105
The King's Dock ...	736,214	1,483,460	1,283,422

PENANG HARBOUR BOARD.

The total gross earnings of the Wharf and Dock for the year 1920 were \$1,577,433* and the expenditure \$1,398,080.*

The following figures are taken from the wharf tonnage returns:—

	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Number of Vessels ...	596	728	661	532	513	554	616
Nett Tonnage ...	1,108,519	871,524	810,675	687,377	581,132	760,100	1,061,414
Coal (Inwards and Outwards)	266,146	72,016	93,388	106,676	60,029	39,356	72,463
Cargo (Inwards and Outwards)	313,360	254,066	245,681	247,051	251,183	242,544	290,153

F. S. JAMES,
Colonial Secretary.

22nd July, 1921.

* Approximate only, and subject to audit.

List of Publications for Sale in the Agricultural Department, Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

1. Coffee Robusta, by W. J. GALLAGHER, 1910. 20 cents a copy.
2. The Cultivation and care of Para Rubber Tree (in Malay), 1910. 20 cents a copy.
3. Coconut Cultivation, by L. C. BROWN, 1911. 20 cents a copy.
4. Padi Cultivation in Krian, by H. C. PRATT, 1911. 20 cents a copy.
5. Camphor, its Cultivation and preparation in the Federated Malay States, by B. J. EATON, Agricultural Chemist, 1912. 20 cents a copy.
6. The Preparation of Plantation Para rubber, by B. J. EATON, Agricultural Chemist, 1912. 20 cents a copy.
7. Agriculture in Malaya in 1912, by L. LEWTON-BRAIN, Director of Agriculture, 1913. 20 cents a copy.
8. Agriculture in Malaya in 1913, by L. LEWTON-BRAIN, 1914. 20 cents a copy.
9. The Tapping of Para rubber tree, by E. BATESON, Assistant Mycologist, 1914. 20 cents a copy.
10. Vegetable Culture in Malaya, by F. G. SPRING and J. N. MILSUM, 1917. 50 cents a copy.
11. The Preparation and Vulcanisation of Plantation Para rubber, by B. J. EATON, Agricultural Chemist, J. GRANTHAM and F. W. F. DAY, Assistant Agricultural Chemists, 1918. \$1 a copy.
12. Fruit Culture in Malaya, by J. N. MILSUM, 1919. \$1 a copy.
13. Food Production in Malaya, by F. G. SPRING and J. N. MILSUM. \$1 a copy.

Annual Reports on all Departments, the Straits Settlements Blue Book and the Annual Report on the Colony are all on sale at the Government Printing Office, Singapore.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1066	Gold Coast	1919
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1918-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Caymen Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1102.

SWAZILAND.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20, see No. 1056.)



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No. 1102.**SWAZILAND.**

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1921.*

I.—FINANCIAL.**(a) *Revenue and Expenditure.***

The total Revenue for the year amounted to £89,070 14s. 8d., being £1,020 14s. 8d. more than the Estimates, and the total Expenditure to £111,727 9s. 10d., showing an excess of £7,830 9s. 10d., on the Estimates.

Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure for the year amounted to £72,293 and £102,310 respectively, as compared with £67,845 and £76,016 respectively in 1919–1920.

Extraordinary Revenue and Expenditure during the year amounted to £16,777 and £9,417 respectively.

There was a considerable increase in the amount received under the head “Customs,” and an increase under “Posts and Telegraphs,” which was due to increased postal rates. Shortfalls were recorded under the heads “Native Tax,” “Fines,” “Transfer Duty,” “Concession Rents,” “Recoveries of Survey Costs,” and “Excess Profits Tax.” The Wheel Tax was repealed by Proclamation No. 32 of 1920, as from 1st July, 1920.

The amount of money spent on road making and repairing was maintained on the lines of the previous financial year's expenditure.

(b) *Public Debt.*

The Public Debt amounted to £92,500, made up as follows :—

(1) Swaziland Consolidated Loan, £72,500, bearing interest at 3½ per cent. per annum, and repayable, through the medium of a Sinking Fund, within twenty-five years from 1st April, 1910.

(2) Swazi Nation Trust Fund, £20,000, bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

* *Note.*—In this Report Financial Statements are for the year ended 31st March, 1921, and all other details are for the Calendar Year, 1920.

(c) Assets and Liabilities.

On 31st March, 1921, liabilities exceeded assets by £109,904 17s. 11d.

(d) Currency and Banking.

The currency is British coin and coins of the late South African Republic, which are of similar denominations to the British. All such British and Transvaal coins are legal tender—in the case of gold coins, for payment of any amount; in the case of silver coins, for payment of an amount not exceeding forty shillings; in the case of bronze coins, for payment of an amount not exceeding one shilling.

The National Bank of South Africa, Limited, has branches at Mbabane and Hlatikulu. The amount on deposit at 31st March, 1921, at the Mbabane Branch was £50,584 5s. 4d. It also has sub-branches at Mahamba and Bremersdorp.

The Bank also conducts savings bank business. The number of savings bank depositors at 31st March, 1921, at the Mbabane Branch was 124, with a total credit of £2,536 7s. 7d.

At the various Post Offices in the territory Post Office Savings Bank business is conducted. At 31st March, 1921, the depositors numbered 207, with a total credit of £1,671 14s. 2d., as compared with 204 and £2,310 19s. 9d. for the previous year.

At the Post Office Savings Banks interest at 3 per cent. was allowed from 1st April, 1920, to 30th September, 1920, on ordinary accounts, and 3½ per cent. on certificate accounts; and from the 1st October, 1920, to the 31st March, 1921, the rate of interest was increased to 3½ per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. Interest was allowed at 3½ per cent. on fixed deposits at the Savings Bank of the National Bank. The export of gold and silver coin is prohibited except under permit.

(e) Customs.

By an Agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, dated 30th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for Customs purposes as part of the Union. Payments due to Swaziland are assessed on a fixed proportion of the total Customs collection of the Union in each year.

The amount so received by Swaziland for the year under review amounted to £14,343, as compared with £7,571, £5,981, £7,788, £8,339, £8,052, £9,835 and £10,372 for the years ended 31st March, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1920 respectively. The amount collected in Swaziland in respect of spirits and beer manufactured in the Union was £1,132, showing a decrease of £158 on the previous year's collections. There was an increase of £3,971 over the amount received under the Customs Agreement.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING.

(a) *Trade.*

In view of the arrangement with the Union Government, referred to above, regarding the collection of Customs dues, no statistics of imports have been kept since June, 1910.

The imports consist principally of flour, sugar, groceries, hardware, clothing, boots, spirits, oils, farming implements and mining machinery, tools and general kaffir truck. A summary of the principal articles exported during the year is given hereunder :

	<i>Value.</i>
	£
Cassiterite Tin, 820,000 lb.	59,254
Cotton (unginned), 411,350 lb.	10,282
Hides, 42,180 lb.	2,099
Wattle Bark, 100,000 lb.	400
Slaughter Oxen (weight), 1,099,000 lb.	26,240
Tobacco, 1,035,000 lb.	25,875
Maize, 132,400	662
Gold Bullion, 276 oz. (about)	1,380
Specie	17,000

The total value of these exports being £143,192.

In ordinary commercial businesses the volume of trade during the year has been considerably below normal. The cost of living has decreased slightly.

The following were the average prices of foodstuffs obtaining throughout the year :—

Flour, per bag, 196 lb.	100s.
Mealies, per bag, 200 lb.	30s.
Kaffir Corn, per bag, 200 lb.	35s.
Potatoes, per bag, 150 lb.	35s.
Butter, per lb.	3s. 3d.
Milk, per quart	4d.
Rice, per lb.	10d.
Sugar, per lb.	7d.
Bread, per lb.	9d.
Beef, per lb.	9d.
Mutton, per lb.	1s. 1d.
Cheese, per lb.	3s. 3d.
Eggs, per dozen	3s.
Pork, per lb.	1s. 1d.
Coffee, per lb.	2s. 6d.
Cocoa, per lb.	4s. 6d.
Tea, per lb.	3s. 3d.
Salt, per bag, 200 lb.	20s.

(b) *Agriculture.*

The crops were, on the average, fair throughout the country, the maize crops in parts being classed as above the average, while the kaffir-corn crop in parts yielded an abundant harvest. The maize and kaffir-corn crops were about 94,000 and 105,000 bags respectively.

The tobacco crop, which is grown almost entirely in the Hlatikulu district, was well up to the average, and the value of the tobacco exported was about two and a half times as much as the value of the cotton crop, and equal to the value of the slaughter cattle exported.

Cotton.—About 1,000 acres were planted during the past season. It has been amply demonstrated that, with a reasonable market price and improved facilities for marketing, the future of the industry is assured.

Regulations ensuring strict expert supervision have been promulgated in consultation with the cotton growers, the objects being the development of a longer staple and prevention of the introduction of disease. The fall in prices will have its effect in reducing the area to be grown in the next planting season. Judging, however, from opinions expressed in the Press and elsewhere, those most likely to know are optimistic of the future, and growers in this territory should be in a position to take advantage of an improved market. The growing of Egyptian cotton under irrigation has attractive possibilities.

An agricultural farm was started shortly before the close of the year ; it has not been possible to do much at the farm, but during the next year it is hoped that the experience gained from it may be of great value to the farmers in the territory.

The usual annual Agricultural Shows were held at Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu, and were quite up to previous standards.

Sale of Crown Lands.—During the year, 20,272 morgen of Crown lands were sold at an average price of £1 per morgen. The area sold included 14,165 morgen of Crown land encumbered by grazing servitudes, for which £4,079 was realized. Unencumbered Crown land sold in the territory is subject, before title is issued, to beneficial occupation, or, in the low veld areas, to stocking with breeding cattle. The purchase price is payable in ten equal yearly instalments, outstanding balances bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

Encumbered Crown land, that is land subject to prior dated servitudes of grazing or land rights, is sold to the registered holder of the servitude and the purchase price is payable in four equal yearly instalments ; there is no condition of beneficial occupation. All land is sold subject to existing mineral servitudes. (A morgen equals 2·11654 English acres.)

During the year the sale was approved of allotments of Crown land, each 500 morgen in extent, to about 110 returned soldiers domiciled in Swaziland, on easy terms, the chief features of which are :—

- (1) Purchase price 7s. 6d. per morgen, payable in fifteen equal yearly instalments, 4 per cent. interest on outstanding balances.

- (2) Minerals reserved and the land to be subject to existing mineral and other servitudes.
- (3) Possession of the land given on payment of the first instalment of the purchase price, subject to the condition that for a period of five years the land shall not be leased, sold, or otherwise disposed of without the consent of the Resident Commissioner.

These grants are not subject to occupation.

These allotments of land, which are situate in the low veld, are at present being surveyed, and should be ready for occupation by the end of 1921.

(c) *Stock.*

The following were the estimated numbers of stock at 31st December, 1920 :—

Horses	..	..	..	..	..	4,710
Horned Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	193,000
Native Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	72,207
Native Goats	..	..	..	..	..	145,000
Asses	..	..	..	..	..	2,057
Mules	..	..	..	..	..	218
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	9,000

Approximately 300,000 sheep came in from the Union for winter grazing.

There has been little, if any, increase in the stock, and there has probably been a decrease in the number of horned cattle due to contagious abortion, which is spreading throughout the country.

There are now fifty-nine Government Dipping Tanks and thirty-three private Dips, six of which are under Government control. The dipping material used is Arsenite of Soda, Cooper's Cattle Dip, Arsenoda and St. O'Gorman Cattle Dip.

The principal work of the Veterinary Department during the year, as in the past, has been the campaign against East Coast fever.

There have been no new outbreaks of the disease during the year under review. There were three infected areas at the beginning of the year.

The following table shows the number of outbreaks of East Coast fever and deaths in the territory for the last five years :—

Year.						Infected Areas.	Deaths.
1916-17	..	..	..	..	..	21	312
1917-18	..	..	..	..	..	6	10
1918-19	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
1919-20	..	..	..	..	..	3	61
1920-21	..	..	..	..	..	1	10

Anthrax.—No outbreaks.

Quarter Evil.—This disease was very prevalent in the Hlatikulu and Peak districts. 18,000 doses of preventive vaccine were issued to Europeans. 4,500 doses were issued to the Stock Inspectors of the Hlatikulu, Peak, and Ubombo districts for the purpose of inoculating natives' cattle.

Contagious Abortion.—This disease continues to spread throughout the country, but there is a marked decrease in the virulence of the disease. It is impossible to try to prevent its spread, and the sooner it passes from herd to herd the sooner the country will be free. Preventive inoculation has not been successful.

Horse Sickness.—This disease was very virulent towards the end of the year. The horses that have been immunized at the Laboratory, Pretoria, have resisted the disease to a very satisfactory extent.

No other diseases have affected the stock of the country to any extent.

Export of Slaughter Cattle.—3,649 head of cattle have been exported for slaughter purposes, as compared with 1,675 for 1918-1919, and 3,341 for 1919-1920.

General.—The full equipment of the Laboratory has not yet arrived from England, so that little work has been undertaken in this respect.

(d) *Mining*.

Mining is carried on under the authority of concessions granted by the late King Mbandeni and the Crown Minerals Order in Council. Tin is the only mineral worked commercially at the present time. Increased costs have adversely affected gold-mining in Swaziland, and with the exception of a little work at the Mlembe and Kobolondo gold mines, nothing was done during the year on other works.

The output for the calendar year 1920 of cassiterite tin was 410·3 tons, valued at £59,254, as compared with 448·73 tons, valued at £66,676, in 1919.

The output of gold was 276 oz., valued at about £1,380.

Draft legislation (since promulgated) was published early in the year to impose a tax of 5s. per 100 morgen on the areas of unexploited mineral concessions. The tax, when payable, is, however, reduced by the amount of any concession rents payable under the Deeds of Concession.

III.—EDUCATION AND RELIGION.

(a) *Education*.

Government schools for European children are established at Bremersdorp, Paardekraal (formerly known as Driefontein,

Hlatikulu district), Ferreira's Station, Mantambi, Mluti, Mtambama, Dwaleni (formerly Nietgegend), Mooihoek, Hlatikulu, and Driefontein (Mankaiana district). There is a primary and secondary school for European children at Mbabane which is subsidised by the Government. The average attendance at these schools was 276, as compared with 310 for the previous year. Malaria was severe during the early part of the year, and this affected the attendance.

At Zombode, the kraal of the Chief Regent, there is a school for natives under Government control. The average attendance at this school during the year under review was 150, as compared with 98 for the previous year.

Archdeacon Watts, M.A., the founder of the school for Europeans at Mbabane, also opened a school for coloured children at Mpolonjeni, where the average attendance was 58, as compared with 57 in 1919. This school also receives a Government grant.

Boarding Bursaries, at the rate of 4s. per child a week, are paid by Government for all European pupils whose parents are in poor circumstances, and who reside three miles or more from a school.

The various native missions in Swaziland receive grants in aid for native education. During the year the grants so made amounted to £839. There are about 2,200 native pupils at the various mission schools, as compared with 1,750 for the previous year.

During the year a law was promulgated, making provision for the compulsory education of European children.

(b) *Religion.*

There are twelve religious bodies carrying on work in Swaziland. So far as possible, the native missions avoid encroaching on each other's spheres of work.

The following are the different native missions working in Swaziland: Church of the Province of South Africa, Roman Catholic, South Africa General Mission, Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, Wesleyan Methodist, Scandinavian Alliance Mission, International Holiness Union, African Methodist Episcopal, Evangelic Lutheran, Full Gospel Mission of Norway, Independent Methodist, and Swedish Mission.

Religious instruction is given by the different bodies at 111 different centres, where the average attendances totalled 5,600, as compared with 95 and 3,800 in 1919. The Church of the Province of South Africa and the Roman Catholic Church also have churches at Mbabane for Europeans.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

The Hospital at Mbabane is the only Government institution in the Territory. The Hospital contains one European and three native wards, and a store room and outbuilding which are used as emergency wards.

There were 142 admissions during the year, and 3,663 out-patients were treated.

V.—JUDICIAL.

(a) *Police.*

The strength of the Swaziland Police was: Europeans: three Officers, one Warrant Officer, eighteen Non-Commissioned Officers and Men. Natives: one Officer, one Sergeant-Major, one hundred and seventy-four Non-Commissioned Officers and Men. All the Europeans are mounted, while the native force is infantry. 6,224 patrols were sent out, and 263,491 miles patrolled.

(b) *Criminal Statistics.*

During the year 1,998 cases of crime were reported to the Police; of this number 1,877 were brought before the Courts, and 121 were not brought before the Courts for want of evidence. In all 2,175 persons (2,121 males and 54 females) were brought before the various Courts; of these five were discharged for want of prosecution, 139 were discharged on the merits of the case, 112 were committed for trial in the Superior Court, and 1,919 were summarily convicted in the Inferior Courts; of the 112 persons who were committed for trial, 109 were brought before the Superior Court; of these, 75 were convicted and 26 were acquitted, and the charges were withdrawn against eight.

(c) *Gaols.*

During the year 1,582 persons, comprising 1,466 men, 67 women and 49 juveniles, were committed to the various gaols in the territory. Of this number none was committed for debt, 351 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 1,231 for purposes of penal imprisonment. Of the number committed for penal imprisonment, 44 had been once previously convicted, 18 twice, and 15 thrice or more times. There were three deaths in gaol during the year.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS, etc.

(a) *Population.*

A census of the population of Swaziland was taken in May, 1921. Only provisional figures are available at present. These show that the total population was 113,751; comprising 2,203 Europeans, 456 Coloured, 7 Indians, and 111,085 Natives.

(b) *Births, Deaths, and Marriages.*

Europeans : Births, 49, as compared with 50 in 1919 ; deaths, 23, as compared with 25 in 1919 ; marriages, 12, as compared with 10 in 1919. The births and deaths of natives are not registered. There were 62 marriages according to Christian rites amongst the native population, as compared with 65 in 1919.

(c) *Public Health.*

The general health of the country has been fairly good. There was a rather severe outbreak of influenza in the Hlatikulu district, resulting in the death of five Europeans. This district had a somewhat mild attack during the 1918 pandemic, and this may account for the severity of the secondary outbreak. Malaria in the low veld was severe during the early part of the year ; in fact it was one of the worst years on record. There were a few cases of dysentery as usual ; both the bacillary and amœbic varieties were recognized.

Unusually few cases of enteric occurred. Scabies continues to be a great scourge to the native population, especially the children. Treatment is always effective for a time, but owing to the conditions of kraal life, re-infection is bound to occur sooner or later.

Syphilis would appear to be on the increase, if one may judge from the number of cases treated, but this may be due to stricter police investigation or increased confidence of the natives in methods of treatment.

(d) *Meteorology.*

The average rainfall as recorded during 1920 at the four principal stations, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak, Croydon, and Natalia Ranch, was 46·30 inches ; the average rainfall throughout the territory for the preceding twelve years being 44·48 inches. The maximum fall recorded for one day was 3·70 inches at Pigg's Peak. A fall of rain was recorded at Mbabane and Pigg's Peak and Natalia in eleven months of the year, while at Croydon, in the bush veld, rain fell during ten months of the year.

VII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

These services are under the control of the Postmaster-General of the Union, but are paid for from the revenues of Swaziland. Union Government officials are stationed at Mbabane ; elsewhere the Post Office work is done by local agents.

There were thirteen offices in operation in the territory during the year, divided up in the following classes :—

Post Offices	..	..	..	..	13
Money Order and Savings Bank Offices	..	..	..	..	5
Telegraph and Telephone Agencies	..	..	..	..	4

A tri-weekly motor mail and passenger service runs between Carolina, Mbabane and Bremersdorp, a distance of about 80 and 104 miles respectively. Of the remaining nine mail services, one is by cart and the other eight by native runners.

The revenue for the year was £2,379 0s. 5*d.*, as against £1,929 5s. 1*d.* for the preceding twelve months.

The total expenditure for the year was £3,380 14s. 2*d.*, as compared with £3,001 14s. 8*d.* for the preceding twelve months.

10,292 British Postal Orders of the value of £5,112 11s. 6*d.*, were issued, while 2,225 of the value of £1,397 6s. were paid.

Money orders of the value of £6,117 6s. were issued, and Money Orders of the value of £4,217 11s. 8*d.* were paid in the Territory during the year.

VIII.—GENERAL.

Major-General His Royal Highness Prince Arthur of Connaught succeeded Viscount (now Earl) Buxton in November, 1920, as High Commissioner for South Africa and Governor-General of the Union of South Africa.

A Commission was appointed during the year to settle the long-standing boundary dispute at Nomahasha between Swaziland and Portuguese East Africa. The recommendations of the Commissioners are still under consideration.

Experiments were carried out with Wireless Telephony with a view to introducing it between several of the outstations and Mbabane. The experiments were successful, but the question generally of telephone extension had to be deferred owing to lack of funds.

Fourteen officers of the Administration passed the qualifying examinations in the Swazi language—ten in the second and four in the third class.

About 3,000 trout fry—brown and rainbow—were liberated in rivers in the vicinity of Mbabane. During the previous year 13,000 were liberated. The experience gained hitherto gives promise of excellent results.

Native labour has been sufficient for local demands, but fewer natives were recruited for the mines. The system of deferred pay is becoming more popular amongst the natives and an amount of £2,282 was paid out to natives on their return from the mines.

The main factor which will continue to militate against the progress of the territory is the lack of a railway to give settlers an access to markets.

The total mileage of roads open to traffic in the territory is 966. About 55 per cent. of this mileage is in a fair state of repair—175 miles of these roads are suitable for motor traffic.

B. NICHOLSON,
Government Secretary.

Mbabane, Swaziland,
22nd October, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent Reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	"
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute.	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the Northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General.	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1103.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1069.)



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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.



TRINIDAD :

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, PORT-OF-SPAIN.

1921.

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

SITUATION AND AREA.

1. The Island of Trinidad is the most southerly of the West Indian Islands and is geographically and biologically a part of the South American Continent, from which it is separated by the Gulf of Paria, into which fall the northern mouths of the Orinoco. It is situated between $10^{\circ} 3'$ and $10^{\circ} 50'$ North latitude, and $60^{\circ} 55'$ and $61^{\circ} 56'$ West longitude from Greenwich. Its average length is about 69 miles, and breadth about 54 miles, and its total area is 1,862 square miles. The Island is traversed by three parallel ranges of hills running approximately east and west. The first, rising to over 3,000 feet, borders the northern coast; the second, rising only in one spot to 1,000 feet, runs diagonally across the centre of the Island; and the third, seldom rising above a few hundred feet, occupies a broad belt near the Southern coast.

2. The Island of Tobago lies between $11^{\circ} 8'$ and $11^{\circ} 21'$ North latitude and $60^{\circ} 30'$ and $60^{\circ} 50'$ West longitude, distance about 26 miles North-East of Trinidad. It is 26 miles long and $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles at its greatest breadth, and has an area of 114 square miles.

HISTORY.

3. Trinidad was first discovered by Columbus on the 31st July, 1498, and taken possession of by him for the Crown of Spain. It was visited by Sir Robert Dudley and by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1595, and was included in the Earl of Montgomery's grant in 1628. In 1640 it was raided by the Dutch, and in 1677 and 1690 by the French. In 1783 a Royal Proclamation was issued by the Court of Madrid by which extraordinary advantages were offered to foreigners of all nations to settle in Trinidad, the sole condition imposed being that they should profess the Roman Catholic religion. The result of the Proclamation was a large influx of population, which was augmented by many French families, who were driven from St. Domingo and elsewhere by the French Revolution, and to this is due the preponderance of the French element in a Colony which never belonged to France. In 1797, Great Britain being then at war with Spain, a British expedition sailed from Martinique for the reduction of Trinidad which resulted in the surrender of the

Island to His Majesty's forces, and on the 18th February, 1797, the articles of capitulation were signed by Sir R. Abercromby, Admiral Harvey, and Chacon, the Spanish Governor. In 1802 it was finally ceded to the Crown of Great Britain by the Treaty of Amiens.

4. Tobago was discovered by Columbus in 1498, at which time it was occupied by Caribs. The British Flag was first planted on the Island in 1580, and the sovereignty was claimed by James I. in 1608. In 1628 a grant of the Island was made by Charles I. to the Earl of Pembroke. It remained unoccupied until 1632, when 300 Zealanders were sent out by a company of Dutch merchants, who styled it New Walcheren. After a residence of about two years these settlers were all destroyed or expelled by the Caribs and Spaniards from Trinidad. In 1641 James Duke of Courland obtained a grant of the Island from Charles I., and in 1642 two vessels arrived with a number of Courlanders, who settled on the North side of the Island. These were followed by a second Dutch Colony in 1654, who established themselves on the Southern coast. In 1658 the Courlanders were overpowered by the Dutch, who remained in possession of the whole island until 1662, when the Dutch Company resigned their right to it. In this year Cornelius Lampsis procured letters patent from Louis the Fourteenth creating him Baron of Tobago, and proprietor of the Island under the Crown of France. In 1664 the grant of the Island to the Duke of Courland was renewed by Charles II. The Dutch refused to recognise the Duke's title, but in 1667 they were compelled to evacuate it by the French Admiral Estras, who defeated the Dutch Admiral Binks in Scarborough Bay, whereupon Louis the Fourteenth restored it to the Duke of Courland, who made over his title to a company of London Merchants in 1681. In 1684, by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the island was declared neutral, the subjects of all European Powers being at liberty to form settlements but not to place garrisons on it. By the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Tobago was ceded by France to England in perpetuity. In 1781, it was captured by the French under the Duke of Bouillé, and in 1783 it was surrendered by treaty to the French Crown. In April, 1793, it was captured by a British force under Admiral Lefrey and General Cuyler, and was once more restored to the French by the Treaty of Peace in 1802, and again reconquered in 1803 by Commander Hood and General Greenfield. In 1814 it was finally ceded in perpetuity to the British Crown.

5. By Order in Council under Act 50 and 51 Vict : Tobago became part of the Colony of Trinidad as from 1st January, 1889. By a further Order in Council of 20th October, 1898, Tobago became a Ward of the United Colony of Trinidad and Tobago as from the 1st January, 1899.

CLIMATE.

6. The climate of Trinidad is tropical and may be divided into two distinct seasons, a dry season from January to the middle of May, with an average rainfall of about 3 inches per month, and a wet season from June to December, with an average of 8 inches per month. The coolest months are December to April. The average temperature during the day is 84 and during the night 74. The average rainfall is about 64 inches, that of 1920, from records taken at all stations, was 59.93 inches. The climate is healthy and by no means hurtful to Europeans, provided reasonable precautions are taken.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

7. Notwithstanding the set back to the trade and development of the Colony caused by the War, the opening of the year found the Colony in a sound financial position, the surplus at 31st December, 1919, amounting to £206,740.

8. The sugar factories, which had been set on their feet by the high prices realized during the War, had brought larger areas under cultivation, and the Oil Companies, who had been marking time for want of the necessary drilling appliances, etc., at once commenced active developments. This, together with the high prices ruling for sugar, cocoa and coconuts, the output of which was above the average, had the effect of stimulating the general trade of the Colony and encouraging the Banks to advance money freely. The value of imports rose from £5,179,931 in 1919 to £8,490,232, and that of Exports from £5,064,427 to £7,435,361, and the total aggregate trade including re-exports and transshipments from £13,473,828 to £18,914,711. In the latter part of the year, however, the slump in the prices of commodities, which occurred throughout the world, was reflected here in the decreased value of the products of the Colony, which in many cases fell below the cost of production. The effect of this was to at once restrict the financing of crops, etc., and to decrease the capital available for the importation of goods. The year closed with a feeling of general depression, but at the time of writing a favourable reaction appears to have taken place.

9. An indication of the general prosperity of the Colony during the year was the success which attended the raising by the Government of a loan of £1,000,000 at 6 per cent. for the extension of Railways, Roads and other Public Services. The Prospectus of the loan was issued on the 8th May and the list closed on the 31st July, when the total applications amounted to £1,506,320, of which £847,050 was subscribed in the Colony.

10. The Committee appointed by the Governor to consider the rates of wages paid to labour and to examine the economic position of the various classes of workmen in the Colony submitted its final report on the 18th September, 1920. The report showed that the price of most commodities in common use

continued to advance and by the end of the year the "cost of living" had reached a figure representing a percentage increase above the standard of 1914 of 126 per cent. in Port-of-Spain, 145 per cent. in the country districts and 171 per cent. in Tobago. Owing to the high prices ruling for sugar, cocoa and coconuts, the planters were in a position to pay better wages, and the demand for labour in the oil-fields gave full employment to all classes of labour not engaged in agriculture.

11. The general health conditions of the Colony were exceptionally good. The continuation of the campaign for the eradication of Hookworm, the anti-malaria measures carried out in the rural districts, the successful treatment of yaws by salvarsan, and the good work done by the Tuberculosis Association and the Mothers' and Infants' Clinic all bearing fruit.

12. The Colony had for the first time in its history the honour of welcoming the Heir apparent to the Throne, in the person of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness and staff arrived in Port-of-Spain on board H.M.S. "Renown" on the 17th September and landed at 10.30 a.m. on the same morning. After having inspected the Guard of Honour and the returned members of the Merchants Contingents and the British West Indies Regiment, His Royal Highness proceeded to the Council Chamber where he received and replied to an address of welcome on behalf of the Government and the People of Trinidad and Tobago, and then to the Town Hall, where he also received and replied to an address of welcome on behalf of the Council and Citizens of Port-of-Spain. His Royal Highness then drove through the City of Port-of-Spain and into the country to the old Spanish capital of St. Joseph along roads lined by crowds, which gave him an enthusiastic welcome. In the afternoon he attended a reception at Government House, followed by a Banquet and a Public Ball at the Prince's Building. His Royal Highness left the Colony on the 19th September in H.M.S. "Calcutta" for British Guiana, returning on the 23rd when he embarked on H.M.S. "Renown" which sailed that night for Grenada. His visit has been an epoch in the history of the Colony, it was marked by a spontaneous outburst of loyalty by all classes of the inhabitants, who extended to him a joyous greeting, and his gracious manner to all has undoubtedly put fresh warmth into their love of country and their personal devotion to the Crown.

OPENINGS FOR THE INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

13. Of the industries which offer inducements to investors of capital, the cultivation of cocoa is perhaps the most attractive, and profitable investments are to be secured either in

- (a) the formation of an estate,
- (b) the purchase of an established estate, or
- (c) the investment of capital on the security of an established estate.

14. Investments on mortgage can usually be obtained for sums under \$1,000 (£208 6 8) at 10 per cent, from \$1,000 up to \$6,000 (£1,250) at 8 per cent., and over \$6,000 at 6 or 7 per cent.

15. The oil industry is progressing so favourably that carefully chosen investments are worthy of attention.

16. Coconut cultivation is rapidly extending, and many enquiries have been made for the investment of capital in this industry. Owners are holding on to their estates, but there are lands available for forming new plantations.

17. The lime industry affords opportunities for profitable investments with quick returns.

18. Fibre cultivation for the manufacture of pulp for paper is likely to be a prominent feature among the coming agricultural industries of the Colony.

VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

19. The estimated population of the two islands Trinidad and Tobago, at 31st December, 1920, was 391,279. The white population is chiefly composed of English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. The large majority of the inhabitants are natives of the West Indies of African descent, the balance being made up of East Indians, estimated at 130,028 and a small number of Chinese.

20. The Birth-rate was 29·85 per 1,000 and the death-rate 23·76 per 1,000.

21. The number of deaths of children under 1 year was 2,048 and the infantile mortality rate was 174·93 per 1,000 Births.

22. The death rates from the principal diseases were as follows :—

Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	2·43	per 1,000.
Malaria	...	2·22	„ „
Tuberculosis	...	1·29	„ „
Dysentery	...	1·51	„ „
Enteric Fever	...	0·76	„ „
Ankylostomiasis	...	0·71	„ „

23. Measures for reducing the infantile mortality were continued throughout the year. The Mothers' and Infants' Clinic in Port-of-Spain has been well attended, and branches of the Child Welfare League have been established in the St. Joseph-Caroni and St. James—a populous suburb of Port-of-Spain—districts.

24. There was no epidemic during the year.

25. Enteric Fever was prevalent in several districts and the recognized measures of control including educational methods and preventive inoculation were adopted.

26. The Tuberculosis Association continued its valuable work.

27. Anti-malarial measures of a minor nature were carried out in all rural districts. The Central Board of Health has under consideration a scheme for undertaking major preventive measures in the most malarious districts.

28. The Intensive Treatment of Hookworm disease, was continued by the Rockefeller International Board of Health. The Central Board of Health is co-operating by an investigation as to the types of latrines most suitable to the various districts of the colony.

HOSPITALS.

29. The following hospital accommodation is provided:—

The Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain	...	340 beds.
--------------------------------------	-----	-----------

The San Fernando Hospital	...	123 „
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The Government District Hospitals at Tobago, Arima, St. Joseph, Tacarigua, Couva, Princes Town and Cedros	...	248 „
---	-----	-------

There are also small temporary Hospitals at Chaguanas, Sangre Grande, Mayaro and Toco.

30. The Hospitals for Yaws patients at St. Augustine, containing 200 beds, and at Tobago, 60 beds, were closed during the year, the successful treatment of this loathsome disease by salvarsan rendering them no longer necessary.

FINANCE.

REVENUE.

31. The Revenue of the Colony for the year 1920 amounted to £1,917,743, exceeding the Estimate by £584,439 and the Revenue for the preceding financial year by £574,859. The following comparative table shews the several heads of Revenue and how the increase was made up :—

Heads of Revenue.	1919.	1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	416,272	638,098	221,826	
2. Port, Harbour and Wharf Dues ..	10,528	11,411	883	
3. Licences, Excise, &c.	404,738	545,522	140,784	
4. War Tax on Incomes ..	64,692	107,951	43,259	
5. Fees of Court and Office ..	91,030	111,774	20,744	
6. Post Office	9,526	13,468	3,942	
7. Government Railway	216,463	225,404	8,941	
8. Rent of Government Property ...	2,686	2,592	...	94
9. Interest	7,044	36,905	29,861	
10. Miscellaneous Receipts	7,583	18,920	11,337	
11. Land Sales, Royalties	47,958	56,259	8,301	
12. Produce Tax	64,364	65,396	1,032	
13. Special Receipts ... ..	...	84,043	84,043	...
	1,342,884	1,917,743	574,953	94
	Net increase		...	£574,859

32. The export tax on produce during the year was for General Revenue purposes as follows :—

Sugar ... ..	...	3/- the 1,000 lbs.
Cocoa ... ..	...	6½d. „ 100 „
Coconuts ..	...	3/4 „ 1,000 nuts.
Copra ... ..	...	10/- „ 1,000 lbs.
Rum ... ..	...	3d. „ gallon.
Molasses ... ..	...	½d. „ „
Cedar ... ..	...	3d. „ cubic foot.
Syrup ... ..	...	2d. „ gallon.

This tax brought in £65,396 as against £64,364 in 1919, an increase of £1,032.

33. A tax on incomes in excess of £500 per annum was also imposed for revenue purposes which realised £107,951. The rates levied were:—

- (a.) Three pence on every £1 of income exceeding £500 and up to £1,000 ;
- (b.) Six pence on every additional £1 beyond £1,000 from £1,001 up to £2,000 ;
- (c.) One shilling on every additional £1 beyond £2,000 from £2,001 up to £5,000 ;
- (d.) Two shillings on every additional £1 beyond £5,000 from £5,001 up to £8,000 ;
- (e.) Four shillings on every additional £1 beyond £8,000 from £8,001 up to £10,000 ;
- (f.) Five shillings on every additional £1 beyond £12,000 from £12,001 up to £20,000 ;
- (g.) Six shillings on every additional £1 beyond £20,000 from £20,001 upwards.

EXPENDITURE.

34. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £1,652,597 being £351,240 in excess of the Estimates, and £343,190 in excess of the expenditure for the previous year, but was £265,146 less than the revenue for the same period.

35. The expenditure included £86,484 on account of extraordinary expenditure, of which £22,951 was expended on Extraordinary Public Works, £43,664 on Roads and Bridges, £1,739 on the Defence Scheme, £3,636 on the Trinidad Contingents of the British West Indies Regiment and £14,494 on Trinidad Returned Soldiers.

36. The Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years were as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	EXPENDITURE.		
		Recurrent.	Extra-ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1916	1,064,596	937,919	80,217	1,018,136
1917	1,098,183	997,513	100,182	1,097,695
1918	1,172,700	1,046,944	77,314	1,124,258
1919	1,342,884	1,200,240	109,167	1,309,407
1920	1,917,743	1,566,113	86,484	1,652,597

BALANCES.

37. The Balance Sheet of the Colony on the 31st December, 1919, showed a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of £206,740, and that of the 31st December, 1920, a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of £471,886. The financial transactions of the year thus resulted in an increased surplus of £265,146, a very satisfactory showing in view of the large increase in the cost of all articles of food, of material for Public Works Roads, Bridges and Railways, and of the expenditure on the Defence Scheme and the Trinidad Contingents.

PUBLIC DEBT.

38. The Public Debt at 31st December, 1919, amounted to £2,208,593. During the year £830 was redeemed and a further loan of £1,000,000 to meet the cost of Railways, Roads and other Public Services raised locally, making a total Loan indebtedness at 31st December, 1920, of £3,207,763. Against this liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of £407,394.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

39. British Currency and United States gold are legal tender. Accounts are kept in sterling by the Government and in dollars by the public, and the coin in circulation is almost exclusively British silver and bronze, there being no limit to silver as legal tender.

40. In 1903 an Ordinance providing for the issue of Government Currency Notes was brought into force. Under this Ordinance notes of the denominations of \$1, \$2, and \$1,000 have been issued, the total value in circulation at 31st December, 1920, amounting to £302,092.

41. Government Savings Banks are established in 17 districts with a head office in Port-of-Spain. The total number of depositors at 31st December, 1920, was 31,296 with deposits amounting to £475,984. The savings banks are largely made use of by the East Indians, of whom at the 31st December, there were 13,214 depositors with £207,249 to their credit.

42. The Private Banks are the Colonial Bank, paid up capital £900,000 with a note circulation in the Colony estimated at £312,500; the Royal Bank of Canada, paid up capital £3,541,667 with an authorized note circulation in the Colony of £312,500; and Messrs. Gordon, Grant & Company, Limited, paid up capital of £500,000. In addition to engaging in banking business of every character, both the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have savings banks branches and pay the same rate of interest as is paid by the Government Savings Bank, viz. 3 per cent.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

43. The c. i. f. value of the total imports amounted to £8,490,232 of which goods valued at £8,322,127 were cleared for home consumption. In addition, goods valued at £1,007,934 were entered for transshipment giving a total import trade of £9,498,166, an increase as compared with 1919 of £3,280,932.

44. The nature and value of the imports (excluding transshipments) for the last five years were as under :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class 1—Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	1,752,685	1,896,868	2,037,263	2,466,174	2,980,839
Class 2—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	321,282	401,700	548,915	462,744	833,226
Class 3—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	1,414,612	1,746,903	1,717,100	2,085,554	4,622,614
Class 4—Miscellaneous and unclassified articles ...	24,398	23,528	15,478	70,058	49,837
Class 5—Bullion and Specie...	143,982	67,715	...	95,401	3,716
Total ...	3,656,959	4,136,714	4,318,756	5,179,931	8,490,232

45. Of the imports entered for home consumption, goods to the value of £1,539,130 were admitted free of duty. The Customs duty collected on the remainder amounted to £602,176.

46. The following table gives the direction of the import trade for the last five years, and shows the effect which the war has had in deflecting the trade with the United Kingdom to other markets. The share of the United Kingdom which in 1914 was 34·6 per cent. and had dropped in 1919 to 16·7 per cent. showed an upward tendency, being 26·58 per cent. for the year 1920, while the share of the United States which in 1914 was 29·5 per cent. showed a still further increase over the 1919 figures amounting in 1920 to 41·39 per cent.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
U. Kingdom ...	984,089 26·9%	850,504 20·6%	658,056 15·3%	864,233 16·7%	2,182,025 26·58%
Canada ...	513,313 14·0 ..	747,816 18·1 ..	804,005 18·6 ..	1,061,826 20·5 ..	1,262,099 15·6 ..
Other British Possessions	287,106 7·9 ..	424,547 10·2 ..	488,820 11·2 ..	427,859 8·3 ..	362,760 4·42 ..
United States	1,272,002 34·8 ..	1,579,562 38·2 ..	1,590,515 36·9 ..	2,024,516 39·1 ..	3,397,803 41·39 ..
Venezuela ...	457,052 12·5 ..	446,286 10·8 ..	711,128 16·5 ..	691,537 13·3 ..	677,421 8·25 ..
France ...	59,034 1·6 ..	41,502 1·0 ..	42,835 ·9 ..	21,899 ·4 ..	71,729 ·87 ..
Germany ...	...	...	...	...	...
O. Countries...	84,363 2·3 ..	46,497 1·1 ..	23,397 ·6 ..	88,078 1·7 ..	264,970 3·23 ..
	3,656,959	4,136,714	4,318,756	5,179,931	8,906,807

The figures in respect of 1920 do not include parcel post which amounted to £113,320, of which it is estimated that 75 per cent. was from the United Kingdom, 15 per cent. from the United States, 5 per cent. from Canada, and 5 per cent. from other countries.

EXPORTS.

47. The f. o. b. value of the exports for the year amounted to £8,408,611, of which £7,435,361 represented the value of local products and manufactures, and £973,250 of re-exports. The value of goods transhipped amounted to £1,007,934 giving a total export trade of £9,416,545. As compared with 1919 there was an increase of £2,370,934 in the value of the exports of local products.

48. The value of the exports for the last five years is given below, the products of the Colony being shown separately from re-exports and transit goods:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Local Produce ...	3,636,580	4,029,755	3,559,201	5,064,427	7,435,361
Re-exports ...	658,175	713,091	1,016,003	1,229,059	973,250
Total ...	4,294,755	4,742,846	4,575,204	6,293,486	8,408,611
Transit Goods ...	762,419	566,150	574,375	963,108	1,007,934
Total ...	5,057,174	5,308,996	5,149,579	7,256,594	9,416,545

49. Dividing the exports (exclusive of transhipments) into classes, their nature and value were as under:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I—Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	3,592,454	3,662,100	3,158,278	4,586,059	6,987,758
Class II—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Un-manufactured ...	448,255	899,135	1,118,005	1,152,742	1,300,457
Class III—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured..	253,813	181,535	298,546	448,029	85,077
Class IV—Miscellaneous and Unclassified ...	233	76	375	205	2,916
Class V—Bullion and Specie...	...	...	...	106,451	32,403
Total ...	4,294,755	4,742,846	4,575,204	6,293,486	8,408,611

50. The quantity and value of the principal products exported during the year were :—

			£
Asphalt (including Manjak) ...	118,697 tons ...		265,540
Bitters ...	65,064 gals. ...		65,061
Cocoa ...	69,723,628 lbs. ...		3,536,830
Oconuts ...	24,135,100 nuts ...		398,669
Copra ...	2,134,570 lbs. ...		42,351
Molasses ...	557,491 gals. ...		66,441
Rum ...	54,665 gals. ...		14,225
Sugar ...	47,967 tons ...		2,656,625
Petroleum, Crude ...	81,905,883 gals. ...		428,886
Petrol Spirit ...	2,420,821 gals. ...		141,128
Refined Kerosene ...	1,927,520 gals. ...		87,269

51. The following table gives the direction of the export trade for the last five years :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
U. Kingdom ...	1,426,251 33·2%	1,946,609 41·0%	2,086,726 45·6%	2,444,447 35·8%	3,095,041 43·94%
Canada ...	514,020 12·0 ..	273,345 5·8 ..	225,352 5·0 ..	165,246 2·6 ..	194,780 2·32 ..
O. B. Posses- sions ...	100,421 2·3 ..	150,512 3·2 ..	279,152 6·1 ..	316,157 5·0 ..	391,072 4·66 ..
United States... 1,484,464 34·6 ..	1,484,464 34·6 ..	1,473,631 31·7 ..	1,423,974 31·2 ..	1,777,632 26·3 ..	2,148,570 25·55 ..
Venezuela ...	40,615 ..	61,242 1·3 ..	32,299 ·7 ..	166,993 2·6 ..	86,603 1·03 ..
France ...	476,072 11·1 ..	570,163 12·0 ..	201,989 4·4 ..	985,891 15·7 ..	972,413 11·56 ..
Germany ...	...	...	...	...	...
O. Countries ...	252,912 5·9 ..	267,344 5·6 ..	323,712 7·0 ..	437,120 7·0 ..	556,757 6·62 ..
Ships' Stores and Bunkers ...	...	...	...	...	363,375 4·32 ..
Total ...	4,294,756	4,742,846	4,575,204	5,293,486	8,408,611

52. The United Kingdom holds first place as the Colony's largest purchaser with 43·94 per cent. of the total exports, the United States second place with 25·55 per cent. and France third with 11·56 per cent. The exports to the United Kingdom rose from 38·8 per cent. in 1919 to 43·94 per cent. in 1920, while those to the United States fell from 28·3 per cent. to 25·55 per cent. and France from 15·7 per cent. to 11·56 per cent.

TOTAL TRADE.

53. The total aggregate trade for the last five years, has been :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1916	4,470,728	5,057,174	9,527,902
1917	4,789,719	5,308,996	10,098,715
1918	5,108,960	5,149,579	10,258,539
1919	6,217,234	7,256,594	13,473,828
1920	9,498,166	9,416,545	18,914,711

SHIPPING.

54. The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year at the several ports of entry was 3,875 with a tonnage of 2,814,546 a decrease of 341 vessels and an increase of 558,962 tons as compared with 1919. There were 1,945 arrivals of 1,421,693 tons and 1,930 departures of 1,392,853 tons, of which 54.58 per cent. was British, as summarised below :—

	Number.	Tons.		
British Steamers entered	336	763,579		
British Steamers cleared	325	733,806		
British Sailing Vessels				
entered	548	18,590		
Do. cleared	562	20,376		
			Number.	Tons.
Total British	...		1,771	1,536,351
Foreign Steamers entered	337	612,388		
Foreign Steamers cleared	331	612,079		
Foreign Sailing Vessels				
entered	724	27,136		
Do. cleared	712	26,592		
Total Foreign			2,104	1,278,195
Total number and tons			3,875	2,814,546

AGRICULTURE.

55. The staple agricultural products of the Colony are Cocoa, Coconuts, Sugar and its by-products—Molasses and Rum. All have been affected by the unusual conditions prevailing in the world's markets. The year was abnormal, the rainfall being exceptionally low, only three other such years having been recorded at the Botanic Gardens since 1862.

56. The exports of Cocoa in 1920 were 62,741,142 lbs., valued at £3,226,215, an increase of 1,997,859 lbs. and £633,579 over the figures for 1919. They were about 7,000,000 lbs. over the average of the last ten years in quantity, having been exceeded only in 1914 and 1917 (the record year). Prices have fluctuated greatly. Following on the removal of the control in 1919 the price jumped in May 1919 from 90/- to 120/- per cwt., and by the end of the year to 130/-. In 1920 prices advanced still further, reaching over 140/- in April. A decline followed and by the end of the year the price had fallen to 80/- and even below, which coupled with the heavy increase in cost of production, owing to higher wages, made the year an anxious one for the cacao planter. Cultivation is being extended particularly in Tobago, on the other hand in places where it had not done well, it is being replaced by other crops. There were no serious troubles from diseases and pests.

57. The exports of sugar and its by-products were—Sugar 47,961 tons, valued at £2,656,625; Molasses 557,491 gallons valued at £66,441 and Rum 54,965 gallons at £14,225, giving a total value of £2,737,291. The crop showed an increase over that of 1919 with a total value of £1,695,906 in excess of that year. The high prices obtained for sugar enabled the principal factories to effect many improvements in their equipment. The stoppage of Indian immigration has helped to cause more attention being devoted to implemental tillage, and animal drawn implements were much more extensively used both for preparing the land and cultivating the crop. Mosaic disease, so well spread in sugar countries, made its appearance but was proclaimed under the Plant Protection Ordinance and action promptly taken to prevent its spread. At the close of the year a special vote was granted to enable the Department of Agriculture to eradicate it as completely as possible during the dry season of 1921.

58. In the Coconut industry the exports in 1920 were 21,969,331 nuts and 2,134,570 lbs. of Copra valued at £373,321 and £42,351, respectively. Taking one lb. of copra as equal to three nuts the output was equivalent to 28,373,041 nuts, a decrease of about 8,000,000 on the corresponding total for 1919. This was partly due to a larger local use owing to the shortage and high cost of imported oils and fats. New areas are being put under coconuts, and there is promise of a rapid increase in the output in the course of a few years.

59. The so-called root disease, which has been a cause of loss in some districts for many years has, as the outcome of investigations by Mr. W. Nowell, D.I.C. who has recently joined the service as Assistant Director of Agriculture, been ascertained to be due to a nematode worm. This is an important advance in knowledge as the cause of the disease had not hitherto been known. It may now be possible to discover means of prevention, if not of cure. Increased attention is being given to tillage, animal drawn implements, and also to some extent tractors are being used.

60. The Rubber exports were 29,759 lbs., a decrease of 11,280 lbs. over those of 1919. Most of it is now Hevea (Para) rubber. Although small the exports compare favourably with 5,492 lbs. five years ago, and provided labour is available they are capable of considerable increase in the near future. Experiments by the Department of Agriculture show that Hevea gives good average yields even in areas too dry or windy for successful cacao cultivation. The low price which has prevailed so long naturally discourages interest in the product. The leaf disease which has caused such havoc in the mainland has occurred in Trinidad but has not done serious damage.

61. The export of Lime Juice decreased considerably; 6,157 gallons in place of 19,479 in 1919. The poor crop was due largely to attacks by the wither tip or Blossom blight disease. The cultivation is, however, being extended, particularly in Tobago.

62. *Food Supply*.—The Government Ground Provision Dépôt started in 1917 has continued to do useful work, and proved a financial success. It affords a ready means to the grower of disposing of his crop at reasonable prices and to the consumer of obtaining supplies. Kiln drying of corn was continued and locally made corn meal sells readily at the Dépôt. The Department of Agriculture has also in other ways encouraged increased production and use of food crops. The receipts of the Dépôt which in 1918 totalled £2,045 rose to £8,651 in 1920.

63. *Stock*.—During the year the Department of Agriculture imported a Donkey Stallion from the United States of America, (which died three days after its arrival), a Red Poll bull from England, and a Poland China sow and 48 Poultry of various breeds from Canada.

64. *Agricultural Credit Societies*.—The number of Societies increased from six in 1918 to thirty at the end of 1920, due chiefly to the Ste. Madeleine Company fostering the movement amongst its cane farmers.

65. Tobago continues to make rapid progress, the value of its agricultural exports to Trinidad in 1920 being £147,572

compared with £14,164 in 1897. Coconuts and Copra combined decreased from the equivalent of 3,800,000 nuts in 1919 to 3,479,000 nuts in 1920. Live stock comes third in value in the list of exports.

66. *Department of Agriculture.*—During the year effect was given to the proposals for the reorganisation of the Department of Agriculture. The Board of Agriculture has become purely an advisory body and the special agricultural tax has been abolished. The staff of the Department is being strengthened to enable it more adequately to deal with the agricultural needs of the Colony, and new offices and laboratories built, the cost being met from profits made by the Department on the estates under its control.

67. *Agricultural Map of Trinidad.*—An Agricultural Map of Trinidad was prepared by the Department of Agriculture and the Survey Department.

68. *General.*—The prosperity of the sugar, coconut, and to a less degree cacao planters during the period of high prices has led to considerable developments, money being invested in new cultivations, particularly coconuts. There has also been much increased activity amongst the cane farmers who number over 25,000 and from whose canes slightly over half the total sugar crop is made.

69. There has been no serious trouble with diseases or pests, other than those already referred to.

FORESTS.

70. The total area of forest land in the Colony is 1,182 square miles. Practically the whole of it is Crown Land and is under commercial timber. The area set aside as Forest Reserves is 330.85 square miles. The reserves are designed principally for the protection of water supply, the preservation of favourable climatic influences and the maintenance of suitable breeding places for the bird and insect friends of Agriculture which are so necessary for its welfare. For the most part the reserves are situated on the sources of the streams in hilly or mountainous land. Some are designed as wind breaks and some are situated on poor land unfit for cultivation.

71. Within the forest reserves there are now 1,004 acres of plantations containing nearly 312,000 planted trees. Of these 93 per cent. are indigenous species including 175,000 Cedar (*Cedrela odorata*), 54,000 Cypre (*Cordia gerascanthus*), 45,000 Poui (*Tecoma serratifolia*) and 10,000 Balsam (*Copaifera officinalis*); while the 7 per cent. of exotic species includes 22,000 Teak (*Tectona grandis*). The Teak was first introduced from Burma in 1913. Some of the trees are now over 60 feet high and 3 feet in girth. They are now producing fertile seeds in sufficient quantity for the new plantations that are being annually made.

72. In addition to the plantations, improvement fellings have been made over 4,963 acres for the purpose of increasing the stock of seedlings of the more valuable indigenous species. The results of this operation so far attained are very promising.

73. The cut of timber of all kinds during 1920 is estimated at 1,600,000 cubic feet of which 850,000 cubic feet is firewood. Half the timber and firewood was used by the petroleum industry. Two wood cutting concessions covering 11,000 acres are held by sawmill concerns that turn out lumber for local use, and 12 concessions covering 23,000 acres are held by Petroleum Companies. 6,157 licenses, mostly for less than 20 trees each, distributed throughout the Colony were granted during the year.

74. The Forest Revenue in 1920 amounted to £11,132, the Expenditure was £5,757 and the surplus was £5,375. The total surplus for the past 11 years now amounts to £34,349.

MINES.

75. *General.*—The chief mineral industry of the Colony is Petroleum, although other minerals such as gold, silver, iron, coal, graphite and gypsum are known to occur.

76. In 1856 a Company operating at La Brea in the vicinity of the celebrated Pitch Lake, refined Local Asphalt for lamp and lubricating oils. From then to 1908 various attempts were made to obtain oil with varying success. In 1908 the New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company drilled one of the first big wells, and in 1910 this Company exported the first steamship cargo of oil from the Island. The production in 1908 was approximately 6,000 gallons, in 1912, 15,300,000 gallons and in 1920, 72,905,947 gallons.

77. A certain amount of drilling for oil has also been done in Tobago, but so far without success.

78. Practically all the Petroleum produced in Trinidad has been obtained from strata of Tertiary age, the Island being separated geologically into two parts by an East to West fault passing near Matura in the East to Port-of-Spain in the West. North of this fault is the Metamorphic area and South the covering of Tertiaries. The chief features of the Tertiary structure are: A synclinal or monoclinal trough between the Central and Northern Mountain Ranges; an anticlinal uplift along the South side of the Central range striking in the direction Pointe-à-Pierre to Nariva Swamp and an undulating area between San Fernando, Mayaro Point, Guayaguayare Bay and Icaos Point with an East-West strike containing several zones of anticlinal and synclinal folding. These numerous local folds are important in the concentration of Petroleum. The Specific Gravities of the crude oil vary on the different fields from an average of 0.9553 to 0.8015.

79. At the end of 1920 there were twenty-two Companies actively engaged in the exploitation of oil in the Colony. These Companies held approximately 200,000 acres under lease and had a total share capital of over £10,000,000. This acreage does not include lands held under exploration and prospecting licenses. Forty-four wells were drilled on Crown Lands and 23 on private lands with a footage drilled of 53,404 on Crown and 23,972 on private lands during the year. The total number of wells drilled to date on Crown Lands is 313 and on private lands 210, making a total of 523 wells drilled in the Colony. The industry provides employment for nearly 5,000 men.

80. The total quantity of oil produced during 1920 was 72,905,947 Imperial Gallons, an increase of 8,469,315 as compared with 1919. Of this total 61,532,046 gallons were from Crown Lands or lands in which the oil rights belonged to the Crown. The quantity exported amounted to 36,254,174 gallons valued at £656,783 as against 49,219,216 at £843,811 in 1918. The Royalty paid by operating Companies on oil won from Crown rights during the year amounted to £18,710 as against £17,205 in 1919, an increase of £1,505. The wayleaves amounted to £4,652, as compared to £4,282 in 1919. In addition to Petroleum the following were produced during the year: Asphalt 141,100 tons of an approximate value of £88,187; Manjak 131 tons valued at £698; Road Building material 191,488 tons valued at £25,919. The Revenue derived from Asphalt was £47,707, an increase over 1919 of £17,887.

81. The principal Oil Companies engaged in the work of Oil development are the Trinidad Leaseholds Limited from Crown Lands held under lease at Fyzabad and elsewhere, and from private lands at Barrackpore, &c., the United British Oilfields of Trinidad Limited, partly from Crown and partly from their own at Point Fortin and elsewhere; the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company Limited, from their own lands at Brighton; the Petroleum Development Company Limited, from Crown Lands held under lease in the Ward of Oropuche; the Trinidad Central Oilfields Limited, from Crown Lands at Tabaquite. There are still large areas of Crown Lands held under License by the Trinidad Petroleum Development Company Limited, and the Trinidad Central Oilfields Limited, upon which geological surveys are still being carried out. Certain portions of these areas will eventually be taken up under lease. The total area of Crown Lands held by Companies under lease, prospecting and exploration licenses aggregates some 375,100 acres. Four important refineries are engaged in the distillation of Petroleum into its various products, while a few small topping plants produce petrol, distillate and residual oils.

LAND.

82. The lands of the Colony can be divided into two classes viz:—Those which are vested in the Crown and those which have

already been alienated. Crown Land is alienated by Royal Grant under the hand of the Governor and Seal of the Colony. The alienation of Crown Lands can be again sub-divided into those sold under freehold title, for agricultural purposes, and those held from the Crown on leasehold for 199 and 999 years for building purposes in residential areas, such as Port-of-Spain, St. Joseph and the new village of La Brea. Lands for agricultural purposes are sold on petition made to the Governor as Intendant of Crown Lands at the following rates: £2 10 0 per acre not exceeding 20 acres: £3 15 0 per acre exceeding 20 acres but not exceeding 100 acres: Exceeding 100 acres at not less than £5 per acre except in special instances and by permission of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. These prices include the cost of survey, registration and grant. No purchaser of agricultural land can be permitted to buy more than one parcel of land at a time nor can he submit a further petition for additional land, until at least half the land already purchased is brought under cultivation, except with the permission of the Intendant. 689 Grants and Leases of an acreage of 4,165 of a total value of £17,460, and leases of residential lots to the value of £11,867 were issued during the year. The Land Regulations of the 24th of December, 1917, prescribed the mode of application, conditions of sale, and price of Crown Lands. The area of Crown Land remaining unsold on 31st December, 1919, was:—

Trinidad	...	...	579,276 acres.
Tobago	...	...	16,946 „
			<hr/>
			596,222 acres.

a great deal of which is in Forest Reserves or under License to Oil Companies.

83. Alienated land varies in value according to its situation and fertility, and the nature and condition of the cultivation. The following may be taken as average values of properly cultivated land:—

Land with Cocoa (full bearing)	...	£40 per acre.
„ Coconuts (full bearing)	...	70 „
„ Canes	...	25 „
„ Other products or cleared for cultivation	£10 and 20	„

84. Land alienated from the Crown prior to 1902 is held under a Grant, extant or presumed, from either the Spanish or the British Crown according to the date of its alienation. In

these older Grants the reservations vary considerably and in the oldest British Grants the terms are conditional. The Grants issued since 1869 contain the following reservation:—

The right to resume for works of public utility and convenience 1/20 part of the land granted, except any land on which buildings have been erected, or which may be in use as gardens or otherwise for the more convenient occupation of such buildings.

From 1869 to 1889: All precious metals and coal were reserved to the Crown.

From 1889 to January 1902: All precious metals or coals, together with Asphalt in certain areas, were reserved.

From January 1902 to 1910: All precious metals, coal, oil and other minerals (except Asphalt) were reserved.

From 1910: All precious metals, coal, oil and other minerals are reserved.

A Crown Grant issued since January 1902 is registered free of charge to the Grantee under the provisions of the Real Property Ordinance, a statute which embodies the principles of the Torrens system of Land Registration, and the Grant becomes the Certificate of Title guaranteed by the Crown.

85. The mineral rights of the Crown can be leased or licensed as follows: Under Exploration and Prospecting Licenses or Mining Lease. A petition for an Exploration should describe the land required, giving the approximate acreage and boundaries and be accompanied by a deposit of £2. The License is granted at the discretion of the Intendant and grants the holder the right to explore or examine the surface of any lands on which the Crown has oil and mineral rights. The License is usually for one or two years and can be an exclusive one; it is issued for the purpose of enabling the licensee to select an area over which to apply for a Prospecting License. Such License is issued on the payment of £5 and the sum of 1/- per acre. The holder of a Prospecting License is entitled to enter upon the land named in the License for two years with exclusive power to search in any part of it for the product or products named, to set up works, sink wells and export the produce subject however to the payment of such rates and duties as may be imposed by law upon such produce. If necessary, and provided the Governor considers the licensee has carried out the terms of his contract, the license may be extended for a period not exceeding a further two years. At the end or sooner determination of the period of the Prospecting License a Mining Lease may be granted over so much of the land held under License as the Governor may consider necessary for the purpose of erection of works, buildings, etc., for the continuation of the operations, at an annual rent to be agreed upon, and the licensee also has the privilege of leasing the crude oil or minerals underlying or upon such portion of the lands which has

been held under the License as the licensee may select for a term of 21 years: this period may be extended, subject to such payment by way of rent or royalty as the Governor may approve. The lands held under Mining Lease must be first surveyed and all expenses of surveys and fees of grant or registration must be paid by the applicant together with a fee of £5 for expenses in connection with the lease.

86. The number of applications received for licenses to explore and prospect for oil during 1920 was 21 and there were 3 applications for Mining Leases.

LEGISLATION.

87. Fifty-seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1920.

88. The following are the more important of those which are likely to be of interest outside the Colony:

No. 2. The Companies (Foreign Interests) Ordinance, prohibits the alteration except with the consent of the Governor of Articles of Association or Regulations which restrict Foreign Interests in Companies. The object of the Ordinance is to prevent companies who have with consent of the Governor acquired oil-bearing lands on the condition that provision is made in their Articles of Association insuring the exclusion of foreign interests, from altering their Articles without the consent of the Governor.

No. 10. The Sedition Ordinance, provides for the punishment of seditious acts and seditious libel, the suppression of seditious publications, and the temporary suspension of newspapers containing seditious matters. The Governor-in-Executive Council is also given power to prohibit the importation of seditious publications, the object of which is to promote feelings of hostility between the several classes of the community and to excite racial hatred.

No. 17. The Vaccination Ordinance, prohibits the practice of arm-to-arm vaccination which the Medical Authorities consider is fraught with serious danger of the spread of communicable diseases, such as syphilis, yaws and leprosy.

No. 26. The Industrial Court Ordinance, to provide for the establishment of an Industrial Court for the settlement of industrial disputes and for advising the Governor on industrial and economic questions.

No. 33. The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, to amend the Bills of Exchange Ordinance with respect to the time of noting a dishonoured bill and to the measure of

damages where a bill is dishonoured abroad. The Ordinance brings the law of the Colony into line with the law of the United Kingdom by allowing a dishonoured bill to be noted on the day of its dishonour or on the next succeeding business day and by making the measure of damages where a bill is dishonoured abroad "the amount of the re-exchange with interest thereon until the time of payment."

No. 44. The Increase of Rent Ordinance, prohibits any increase in the rent of a dwelling house; the demanding of a premium as a condition of the grant, renewal or continuance of a tenancy, and the making of ejectment orders unless there has been a breach by the tenant of the conditions of his tenancy, or the tenant has given notice to quit or is a nuisance to adjoining occupiers, or has neglectfully allowed the dwelling house to deteriorate or the dwelling house is reasonably required by the landlord for the occupation of himself or some person in his employ.

No. 45. The Shop Hours Ordinance, to provide for the regulation of the opening hours of shops and also of premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor. The Governor in Executive Council is given power to make closing orders fixing the opening hours during which shops may be open for serving customers.

No. 46. Oil Pollution and Water Conservation Ordinance, to provide for the control of pollution of land or water by oil mining operations and for the issue of licences for the abstraction of water from water-courses for industrial purposes. This Ordinance provides for the establishment of an "Oil and Water Board" to be appointed by the Governor. The duties of the Board are to hear complaints as to pollution, to grant compensation for any damage done by pollution, to prohibit oil mining operations causing the pollution, or to grant licenses for such operations as the Board consider most expedient in the public interest. The Board is also empowered to grant licences for the abstraction of water from any water-course whenever the Board consider such abstraction is necessary for the purpose of any industry including oil mining, irrigation and inundation for agricultural purposes. The Ordinance also provides for the approval by the Board of the sites and method of construction and for the inspection of all dams or reservoirs capable of containing more than a quarter of a million gallons of water or oil.

EDUCATION.

89. At the close of the year under review there were 293 elementary schools in the Colony, viz. 50 Government, and 243 Assisted Schools, of which 95 were Roman Catholics, 56 Church of England, 68 Canadian Mission, 12 Wesleyans, 11 Moravians and 1 Baptist.

90. The number of pupils on the roll in December 1920 was 50,381, of whom 27,703 were boys, and 22,678 girls. The daily average attendance was 27,806 or 55·19 per cent. of those on the Roll. As compared with the previous year an increase of 1,900 on the roll and 821 in average attendance was shown, which shows that the recovery from war distress is beginning.

91. During the year 114 candidates sat for the Board of Education Exhibitions. Exhibitions were awarded to 8, making a total number of 42 Exhibitioners who were being educated at Queen's Royal College and St. Mary's College at 31st December. There were 33 students in Training Schools at the same date. 49 candidates sat for the Teachers' Certificate Examination in March; of this number 37 passed, being 75·71 per cent. of those examined.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

92. The following Colleges afford facilities for the higher education of boys, the Queen's Royal College and its affiliated institutions the St. Mary's College in Port-of-Spain, and the Naparima College in San Fernando. The St Joseph Convent in Port-of-Spain, which is also affiliated to the Queen's Royal College provides similar education for girls. The number of pupils on the roll at 31st December were:—

Queen's Royal College	...	...	169
St Mary's College	...	...	388
Naparima College	...	...	126
St. Joseph's Convent School	...	...	412
Total	...	...	<hr/>1,095 <hr/>

93. The Queen's Royal College and its affiliated Colleges are examined annually in July. The lower forms are examined by the Cambridge University Examinations Syndicate, and their report is published in the *Royal Gazette*. The Upper and Lower Sixth Forms are examined by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, being entered for the Higher and School Certificate Examinations respectively, while the pupils of the Fifth Form are entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination.

94. 516 pupils of the Lower Forms sat for examination in July, 1920; 69 pupils of the Fifth Form sat for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, while 29 candidates entered for the School Certificate and 27 for the Higher Certificate Examinations. Two Scholarships not exceeding £700 each, tenable at a University in the British Empire, or other scientific or technical Institution to be approved of by the College Council, were awarded on the result of the Higher Certificate Examination. The number of Scholarships has been reduced to two annually, one of which is ear-marked for Agriculture. Fifteen Higher Certificates were gained. The number of School Certificates awarded was thirteen. Forty-six candidates passed the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, eleven gaining honours, four of whom were placed in the First Class, while sixteen distinctions in different subjects were gained.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION:

95. The work of the Board of Industrial Training, established under Ordinance No. 14 of 1906, was carried on as usual during the year, at the close of which there were on its books 2,584 Registered Artisans, 62 Registered Masters, and 158 Registered Apprentices. In 1918, there were only 122 Registered Apprentices. The technical educational work of the Board was suspended for the greater part of the year on account of the destruction by fire of the Victoria Institute, and the subsequent inability to get trained instructors. An annual grant of £650 is voted the Board by the Legislature. Negotiations were in 1918 opened by the Board with the Royal Victoria Institute in the hope of the two bodies getting further together on the subject of Technical Education, but were eventually suspended pending the obtaining by the latter body of a suitable and qualified person to take charge of the scheme which was tentatively formulated. After the engagement of such a person in England the destruction of the Victoria Institute by fire led to the cancelling of his engagement.

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MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

(a.) — RAILWAYS.

97. The Trinidad Government Railway now consists (1) of the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line running 29 miles along the southern foot hills of the northern range of hills to within

eight miles of the eastern coast, (2) the San Fernando-Siparia line 44 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line at St. Joseph, and following roughly the western coast of the Colony, total distance Port-of-Spain to Siparia, 51 miles, (3) the Cparo Valley line, $28\frac{1}{2}$ miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line at Jerningham Junction, $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Port-of-Spain in a generally south-eastern direction, total distance from Port-of-Spain 43 miles, (4) the Guaracara line, 10 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line north of San Fernando in an easterly direction to Princes Town, total distance from Port-of-Spain, 43 miles, and (5) the Cipero Tramway, to the South of San Fernando, also proceeding by another route to Princes Town, length with branches, $13\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The total length of the system is 123 miles, of which about 8 miles are leased to other interests. The Railway is of standard ($4'-8\frac{1}{2}"$) gauge.

98. The railways afford communication for passengers between all lines three times a day, and there are goods train opportunities once a day. A suburban service of trains is run between Port-of-Spain and Tacarigua, giving a service of 6 to 8 trains daily each way. In connection with the railway at San Fernando, two small fast steamers make five trips a week to La Brea, (near the celebrated Pitch Lake), the Oilfields, Cedros, and to the south-western point of the Island at Icacos, stopping at eight intermediate places along the coast, and carrying passengers, mails and goods.

99. Another steamer makes six trips a week each way to and from the Bocas entrance to the Gulf, including the Islands to the West of Port-of-Spain.

100. The railway stations are in telegraphic communication one with the other on all parts of the system, and there is a telephone line south-west of San Fernando along the steamer route, giving a total length of 114 miles of telegraph and about 55 miles of telephone lines, and important extensions are contemplated in the near future. There is also a service telephone along the Cipero Section between San Fernando and Princes Town.

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101. The communication by cable with the United Kingdom, Europe and other parts of the world is through the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's duplicate Cable system, which are the only cable lines from Trinidad. Both cables on leaving Trinidad touch at Grenada where they separate until they meet again at St. Lucia, Porto Rico, Jamaica and terminate at Santiago, Cuba, where the Company hand over their traffic to the Cuba Submarine Company who in turn at Havana hand over to the Western Union Telegraph Company which has a duplicate cable system to New York.

102. The shorter and more direct cable between Trinidad and Santiago, Cuba, touches at the Island of St. Croix (with a branch line to St. Thomas).

103. The other cable on leaving Grenada serves St. Vincent. (with a branch duplicate line to Barbados) St. Lucia, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Antigua, St. Kitts and St. Thomas, and meets its sister cable at Porto Rico and Jamaica, and they both terminate at Santiago, Cuba.

104. The Company's Cables connect with the French Cable Company's Line at Guadeloupe and Porto Rico, which proceeds to New York *via* Hayti. In addition their lines connect with the Direct West Indian Cable Company's (called the all-British route) Line at Jamaica, which proceeds from there to Bermuda, Halifax and the United Kingdom.

105. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company also have a branch duplicate line between Trinidad and British Guiana.

106. Wireless stations have been erected at Port-of-Spain and Scarborough, Tobago, and owing to the interruptions in the West India and Panama Telegraph Company's Cable, telegraphic communication was maintained during the year by wireless with British Guiana, and late in the year also with Barbados.

(c.)—STEAMSHIP.

107. The following steamship lines call regularly at Trinidad:—

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, London Direct Line, Glasgow Direct Line, Leyland Line, Harrison Line, Compagnie General Transatlantique, Royal Dutch Mail, La Veloce (Navigation Italiana) Trinidad Line. (Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company), Lamport and Holt, Prince Line and Navigacion Fluvial y Costanera de Venezuela. Mails are regularly forwarded and received by these steamers. In addition there are a number of Steamers calling at the port for bunker coal and oil fuel.

108. There is a weekly Coastal Steamship Service between Trinidad and Tobago by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's subsidized Steamer *Belize*, going every alternate week by the northern and southern routes.

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Northern route.—Leaves Port-of-Spain going north on Monday at 9 p.m., and calling at the following shipping places in Trinidad viz., Blanchisseuse, Matelot, Grande Rivière, San Souci and Toco,

arriving at Scarborough, Tobago on Tuesday afternoon. Thence goes East around Tobago calling at the following shipping places, Hillsboro, Pembroke, Roxborough, King's Bay, Spey Side, Man-o'-War Bay, Parlatuvier, Castara, Plymouth, Mt. Irvine, and Milford arriving at Scarborough on Thursday, leaving the same day at 8 p.m. for Trinidad calling at Toco and thence to Port-of-Spain direct.

Southern Route.—Leaves Port-of-Spain going south on Monday at 9 p.m., calling at the following shipping places in Trinidad, viz., Moruga, Guayaguayare, St. Margaret's, Plaisance, St. Joseph and Manzanilla from thence direct to Scarborough, Tobago, arriving there on Thursday morning and leaves at noon for Toco, San Souci, Grande Rivière, Matelot and Blanchisseuse, arriving at Port-of-Spain on Saturday morning.

(d.)—ROADS.

110. The roads of the Colony are divided into main and local roads. The former and 50 per cent. of the latter are under the control of the Director of Public Works. The other local roads are under Local Road Boards. The main roads with a total mileage of 1,074.01 miles—made up of 539.76 miles metal, 307.59 miles gravel or burnt clay, 74.66 miles natural soil cart roads, and 152.00 miles bridle road—were maintained at a cost of £103,661 or at an average rate of £99 2 10 per mile; and the local roads, in districts where there are no Local Road Boards, comprising, 651.64 miles—made up of 32.92 miles metal, 161.60 miles gravel or burnt clay and 233.88 miles natural soil cart road and 223.24 miles bridle road—at a cost of £25,056 or at an average rate of £38 8 6 per mile. In addition there are several miles of Crown Traces in charge of the Wardens who are provided with funds to maintain them merely as rights of way.

111. The road system is being extended gradually but the war interfered seriously with the progress of the work. In 1910 a road scheme to cost £588,663 increased in 1917 to £592,829 was adopted and it provided for completion of the works estimated for within 10 years from 1st April, 1911. The outbreak of war in 1914 however completely upset the finance of the scheme owing to the difficulty of raising the loan which was necessary to cover a proportion of the cost. According to the arranged programme £530,000 should have been expended by 1919, but only a sum of £298,000 was available. This scheme has since been revised and extended. Under the revised scheme the expenditure provided for amounts to £963,644, but only £150,000 of this is recommended to be expended immediately. This amount is intended to cover a three years' programme from January, 1920 at the rate of £50,000 per year.

(e.) POSTAL.

112. There is a General Post Office at Port-of-Spain, with branch offices at San Fernando and Tobago and about 99 out offices throughout the Colony.

113. The rates of postage are as follows, per 1 oz. letter:—

Within the Colony	1d.
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To United Kingdom, British Possessions and United States	1d.
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To other places for 1st oz 2½d. and for each additional ounce 1½d.

A surcharge war tax stamp of one penny was imposed in addition to the ordinary postage up to the 31st December, 1919.

114. Maps of Trinidad and Tobago are attached.

H. B. WALCOTT,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD,
15th September, 1921.

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these older Grants the reservations vary considerably and in the oldest British Grants the terms are conditional. The Grants issued since 1869 contain the following reservation :—

The right to resume for works of public utility and convenience 1/20 part of the land granted, except any land on which buildings have been erected, or which may be in use as gardens or otherwise for the more convenient occupation of such buildings.

From 1869 to 1889 : All precious metals and coal were reserved to the Crown.

From 1889 to January 1902 : All precious metals or coals, together with Asphalt in certain areas, were reserved.

From January 1902 to 1910 : All precious metals, coal, oil and other minerals (except Asphalt) were reserved.

From 1910 : All precious metals, coal, oil and other minerals are reserved.

A Crown Grant issued since January 1902 is registered free of charge to the Grantee under the provisions of the Real Property Ordinance, a statute which embodies the principles of the Torrens system of Land Registration, and the Grant becomes the Certificate of Title guaranteed by the Crown.

85. The mineral rights of the Crown can be leased or licensed as follows : Under Exploration and Prospecting Licenses or Mining Lease. A petition for an Exploration should describe the land required, giving the approximate acreage and boundaries and be accompanied by a deposit of £2. The License is granted at the discretion of the Intendant and grants the holder the right to explore or examine the surface of any lands on which the Crown has oil and mineral rights. The License is usually for one or two years and can be an exclusive one ; it is issued for the purpose of enabling the licensee to select an area over which to apply for a Prospecting License. Such License is issued on the payment of £5 and the sum of 1/- per acre. The holder of a Prospecting License is entitled to enter upon the land named in the License for two years with exclusive power to search in any part of it for the product or products named, to set up works, sink wells and export the produce subject however to the payment of such rates and duties as may be imposed by law upon such produce. If necessary, and provided the Governor considers the licensee has carried out the terms of his contract, the license may be extended for a period not exceeding a further two years. At the end or sooner determination of the period of the Prospecting License a Mining Lease may be granted over so much of the land held under License as the Governor may consider necessary for the purpose of erection of works, buildings, etc., for the continuation of the operations, at an annual rent to be agreed upon, and the licensee also has the privilege of leasing the crude oil or minerals underlying or upon such portion of the lands which has

been held under the License as the licensee may select for a term of 21 years; this period may be extended, subject to such payment by way of rent or royalty as the Governor may approve. The lands held under Mining Lease must be first surveyed and all expenses of surveys and fees of grant or registration must be paid by the applicant together with a fee of £5 for expenses in connection with the lease.

86. The number of applications received for licenses to explore and prospect for oil during 1920 was 21 and there were 3 applications for Mining Leases.

LEGISLATION.

87. Fifty-seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1920.

88. The following are the more important of those which are likely to be of interest outside the Colony :

No. 2. The Companies (Foreign Interests) Ordinance, prohibits the alteration except with the consent of the Governor of Articles of Association or Regulations which restrict Foreign Interests in Companies. The object of the Ordinance is to prevent companies who have with consent of the Governor acquired oil-bearing lands on the condition that provision is made in their Articles of Association insuring the exclusion of foreign interests, from altering their Articles without the consent of the Governor.

No. 10. The Sedition Ordinance, provides for the punishment of seditious acts and seditious libel, the suppression of seditious publications, and the temporary suspension of newspapers containing seditious matters. The Governor-in-Executive Council is also given power to prohibit the importation of seditious publications, the object of which is to promote feelings of hostility between the several classes of the community and to excite racial hatred.

No. 17. The Vaccination Ordinance, prohibits the practice of arm-to-arm vaccination which the Medical Authorities consider is fraught with serious danger of the spread of communicable diseases, such as syphilis, yaws and leprosy.

No. 26. The Industrial Court Ordinance, to provide for the establishment of an Industrial Court for the settlement of industrial disputes and for advising the Governor on industrial and economic questions.

No. 33. The Bills of Exchange Ordinance, to amend the Bills of Exchange Ordinance with respect to the time of noting a dishonoured bill and to the measure of

damages where a bill is dishonoured abroad. The Ordinance brings the law of the Colony into line with the law of the United Kingdom by allowing a dishonoured bill to be noted on the day of its dishonour or on the next succeeding business day and by making the measure of damages where a bill is dishonoured abroad "the amount of the re-exchange with interest thereon until the time of payment."

No. 44. The Increase of Rent Ordinance, prohibits any increase in the rent of a dwelling house; the demanding of a premium as a condition of the grant, renewal or continuance of a tenancy, and the making of ejectment orders unless there has been a breach by the tenant of the conditions of his tenancy, or the tenant has given notice to quit or is a nuisance to adjoining occupiers, or has neglectfully allowed the dwelling house to deteriorate or the dwelling house is reasonably required by the landlord for the occupation of himself or some person in his employ.

No. 45. The Shop Hours Ordinance, to provide for the regulation of the opening hours of shops and also of premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor. The Governor in Executive Council is given power to make closing orders fixing the opening hours during which shops may be open for serving customers.

No. 46. Oil Pollution and Water Conservation Ordinance, to provide for the control of pollution of land or water by oil mining operations and for the issue of licences for the abstraction of water from water-courses for industrial purposes. This Ordinance provides for the establishment of an "Oil and Water Board" to be appointed by the Governor. The duties of the Board are to hear complaints as to pollution, to grant compensation for any damage done by pollution, to prohibit oil mining operations causing the pollution, or to grant licenses for such operations as the Board consider most expedient in the public interest. The Board is also empowered to grant licences for the abstraction of water from any water-course whenever the Board consider such abstraction is necessary for the purpose of any industry including oil mining, irrigation and inundation for agricultural purposes. The Ordinance also provides for the approval by the Board of the sites and method of construction and for the inspection of all dams or reservoirs capable of containing more than a quarter of a million gallons of water or oil.

EDUCATION.

89. At the close of the year under review there were 293 elementary schools in the Colony, viz. 50 Government, and 243 Assisted Schools, of which 95 were Roman Catholics, 56 Church of England, 68 Canadian Mission, 12 Wesleyans, 11 Moravians and 1 Baptist.

90. The number of pupils on the roll in December 1920 was 50,381, of whom 27,703 were boys, and 22,678 girls. The daily average attendance was 27,806 or 55.19 per cent. of those on the Roll. As compared with the previous year an increase of 1,900 on the roll and 821 in average attendance was shown, which shows that the recovery from war distress is beginning.

91. During the year 114 candidates sat for the Board of Education Exhibitions. Exhibitions were awarded to 8, making a total number of 42 Exhibitioners who were being educated at Queen's Royal College and St. Mary's College at 31st December. There were 33 students in Training Schools at the same date. 49 candidates sat for the Teachers' Certificate Examination in March; of this number 37 passed, being 75.71 per cent. of those examined.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

92. The following Colleges afford facilities for the higher education of boys, the Queen's Royal College and its affiliated institutions the St. Mary's College in Port-of-Spain, and the Naparima College in San Fernando. The St Joseph Convent in Port-of-Spain, which is also affiliated to the Queen's Royal College provides similar education for girls. The number of pupils on the roll at 31st December were:—

Queen's Royal College	...	...	169
St Mary's College	...	...	388
Naparima College	...	...	126
St. Joseph's Convent School	...	...	412
Total	...	...	<hr/>1,095 <hr/>

93. The Queen's Royal College and its affiliated Colleges are examined annually in July. The lower forms are examined by the Cambridge University Examinations Syndicate, and their report is published in the *Royal Gazette*. The Upper and Lower Sixth Forms are examined by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, being entered for the Higher and School Certificate Examinations respectively, while the pupils of the Fifth Form are entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination.

94. 516 pupils of the Lower Forms sat for examination in July, 1920; 69 pupils of the Fifth Form sat for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, while 29 candidates entered for the School Certificate and 27 for the Higher Certificate Examinations. Two Scholarships not exceeding £700 each, tenable at a University in the British Empire, or other scientific or technical Institution to be approved of by the College Council, were awarded on the result of the Higher Certificate Examination. The number of Scholarships has been reduced to two annually, one of which is ear-marked for Agriculture. Fifteen Higher Certificates were gained. The number of School Certificates awarded was thirteen. Forty-six candidates passed the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, eleven gaining honours, four of whom were placed in the First Class, while sixteen distinctions in different subjects were gained.

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MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

(a.) —RAILWAYS.

97. The Trinidad Government Railway now consists (1) of the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line running 29 miles along the southern foot hills of the northern range of hills to within

eight miles of the eastern coast, (2) the San Fernando-Siparia line 44 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-Arima-Sangre Grande line at St. Joseph, and following roughly the western coast of the Colony, total distance Port-of-Spain to Siparia, 51 miles, (3) the Cparo Valley line, $28\frac{1}{2}$ miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line at Jerningham Junction, $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Port-of-Spain in a generally south-eastern direction, total distance from Port-of-Spain 43 miles, (4) the Guaracara line, 10 miles, leaving the Port-of-Spain-San Fernando-Siparia line north of San Fernando in an easterly direction to Princes Town, total distance from Port-of-Spain, 43 miles, and (5) the Cipero Tramway, to the South of San Fernando, also proceeding by another route to Princes Town, length with branches, $13\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The total length of the system is 123 miles, of which about 8 miles are leased to other interests. The Railway is of standard ($4'-8\frac{1}{2}"$) gauge.

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(c.)—STEAMSHIP.

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(d.)—ROADS.

110. The roads of the Colony are divided into main and local roads. The former and 50 per cent. of the latter are under the control of the Director of Public Works. The other local roads are under Local Road Boards. The main roads with a total mileage of 1,074.01 miles—made up of 539.76 miles metal, 307.59 miles gravel or burnt clay, 74.66 miles natural soil cart roads, and 152.00 miles bridle road—were maintained at a cost of £103,661 or at an average rate of £99 2 10 per mile; and the local roads, in districts where there are no Local Road Boards, comprising, 651.64 miles—made up of 32.92 miles metal, 161.60 miles gravel or burnt clay and 233.88 miles natural soil cart road and 223.24 miles bridle road—at a cost of £25,056 or at an average rate of £38 8 6 per mile. In addition there are several miles of Crown Traces in charge of the Wardens who are provided with funds to maintain them merely as rights of way.

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To United Kingdom, British Possessions and
United States 1d.

To other places for 1st oz 2½d. and for each
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A surcharge war tax stamp of one penny was imposed in addition to the ordinary postage up to the 31st December, 1919.

114. Maps of Trinidad and Tobago are attached.

H. B. WALCOTT,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD,
15th September, 1921.

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COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Year.</i>
1065	Sierra Leone	1919
1066	Gold Coast	"
1067	Jamaica	1919-1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	"
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919-1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918-1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919-1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919-1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920-1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920-1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920-1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919-1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918-1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920-1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Wei-hai-wei	"
1098	Nigeria	"
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	1920
1102	Swaziland	1920-1921

MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Colony, etc.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the West

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